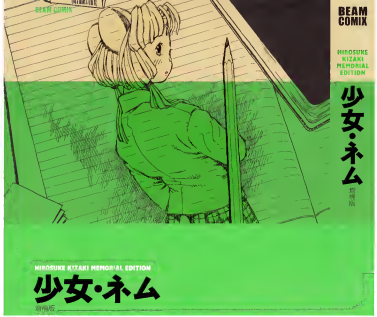


BEAM COMIX

HIROSUKE KIZAKI MEMORIAL EDITION

少女・ネム

HIROSUKE KIZAKI MEMORIAL EDITION

少女・ネム

木崎ひろすけ＋原作 カリブ・マーレイ

Hirosuke Kizaki Art Works

木崎ひろすけ

9784757705920

ISBN4-7577-0592-1

C0979 ¥1100E

定価 本体1100円＋税　エンターブレイン

1920979011007

HIROSUKE KIZAKI MEMORIAL EDITION

Cover Design : VOLARE inc.

HIROSUKE KIZAKI MEMORIAL EDITION

Shoujo Nemu

Hirosuke Kizaki
Story: Marley Caribu

Translation by
LAIKA
Lettering by
NOMAD SOUL

enterbrain
kotonoha.monkey-pirate.com

C O N T E N T S

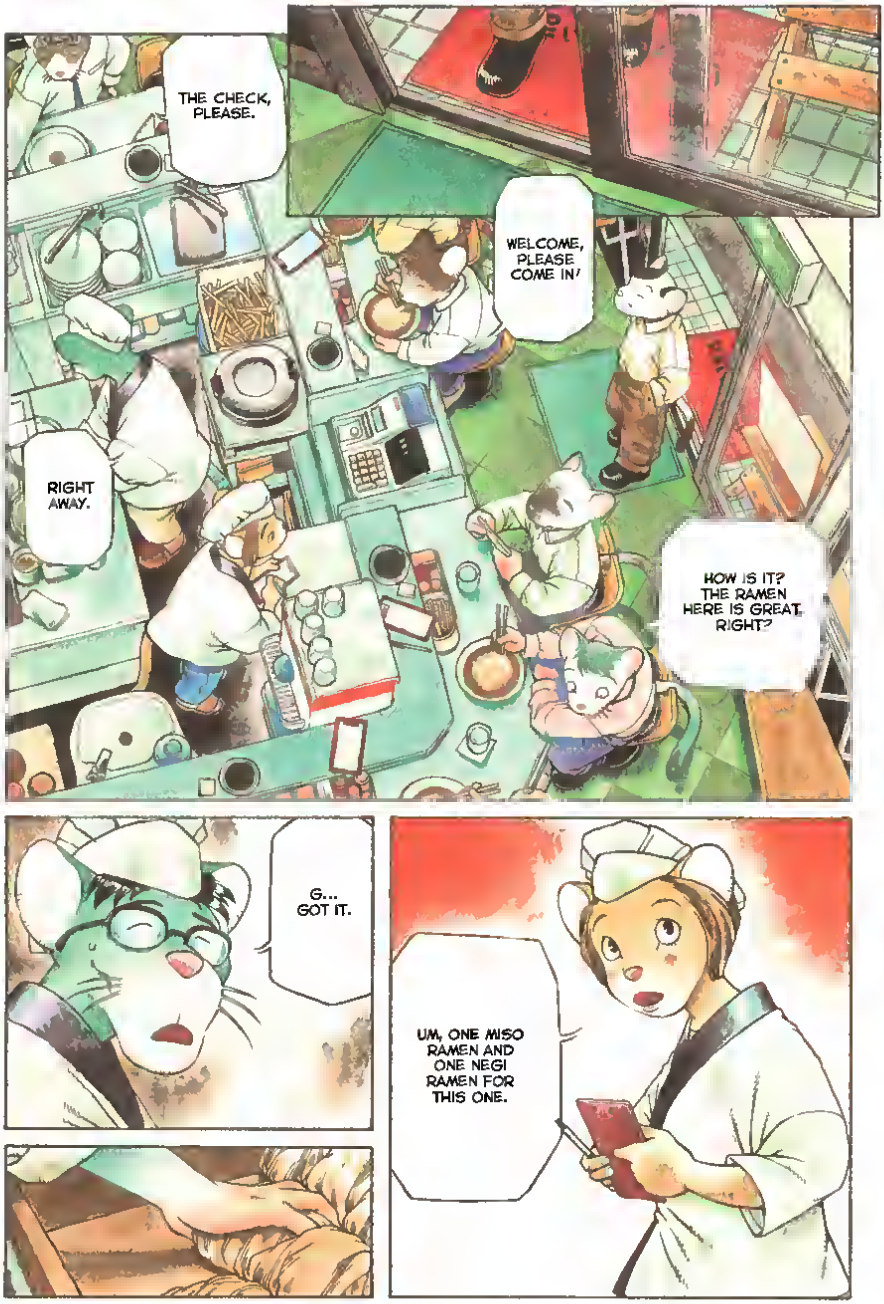
Vol. 1 When We Dream ... 5
Vol. 2 A Premonition ... 33
Vol. 3 A Distant Voice ... 57
Vol. 4 What the Full Moon Brings ... 81
Vol. 5 A Special Night ... 105
Vol. 6 A Little Resolution ... 129
Vol. 7 Double Booking ... 153
Vol. 8 Capricious Goro ... 177
Vol. 9 Goro, Gone ... 201
Vol. 10 Hotel ... 225

Character Design Gallery ... 250

Commentary -Katsuhiko Okumura- ... 252

* RAMEN CHAIN MENKICHI

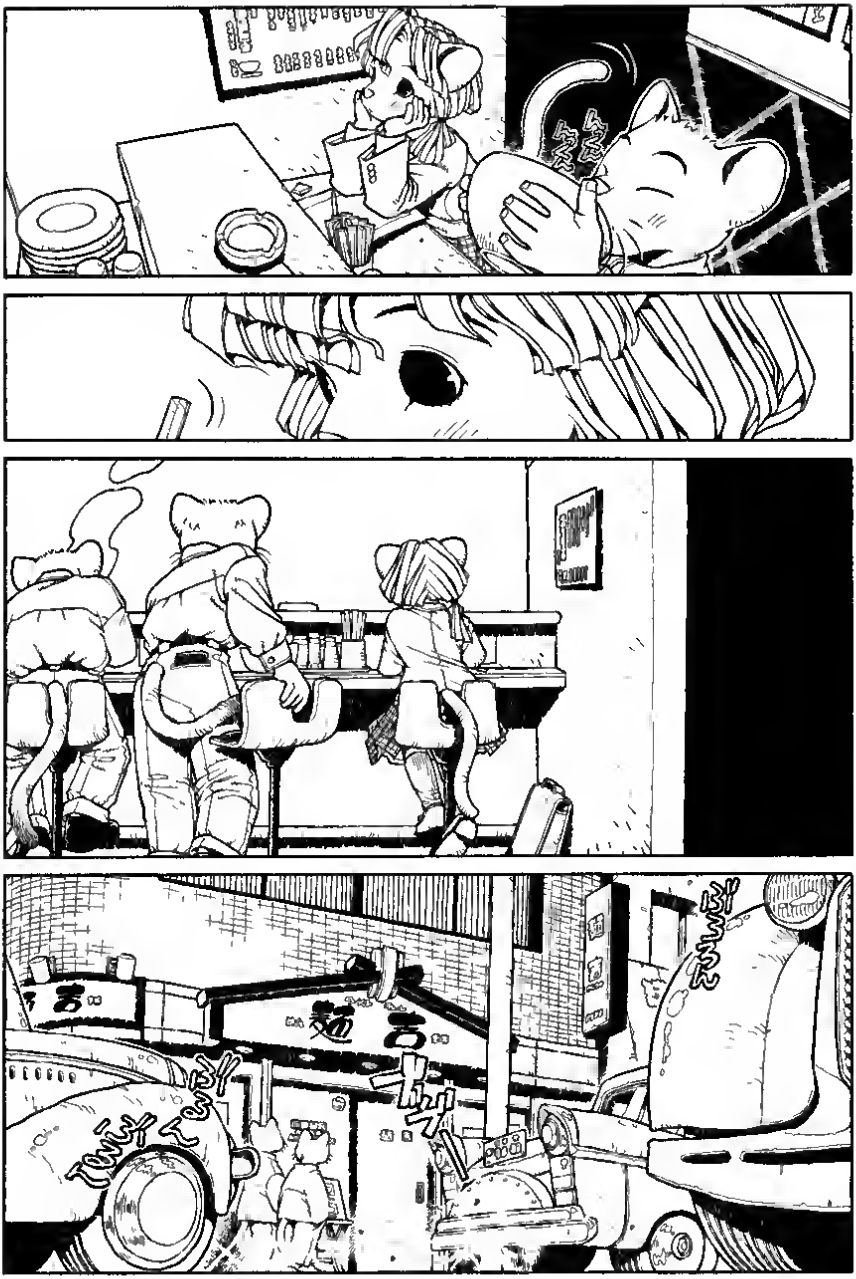
Vol. 1: When We Dream


THE CHECK, PLEASE.
WELCOME, PLEASE COME IN!
RIGHT AWAY.
HOW IS IT? THE RAMEN HERE IS GREAT, RIGHT?
G... GOT IT.
UM, ONE MISO RAMEN AND ONE NEGI RAMEN FOR THIS ONE.

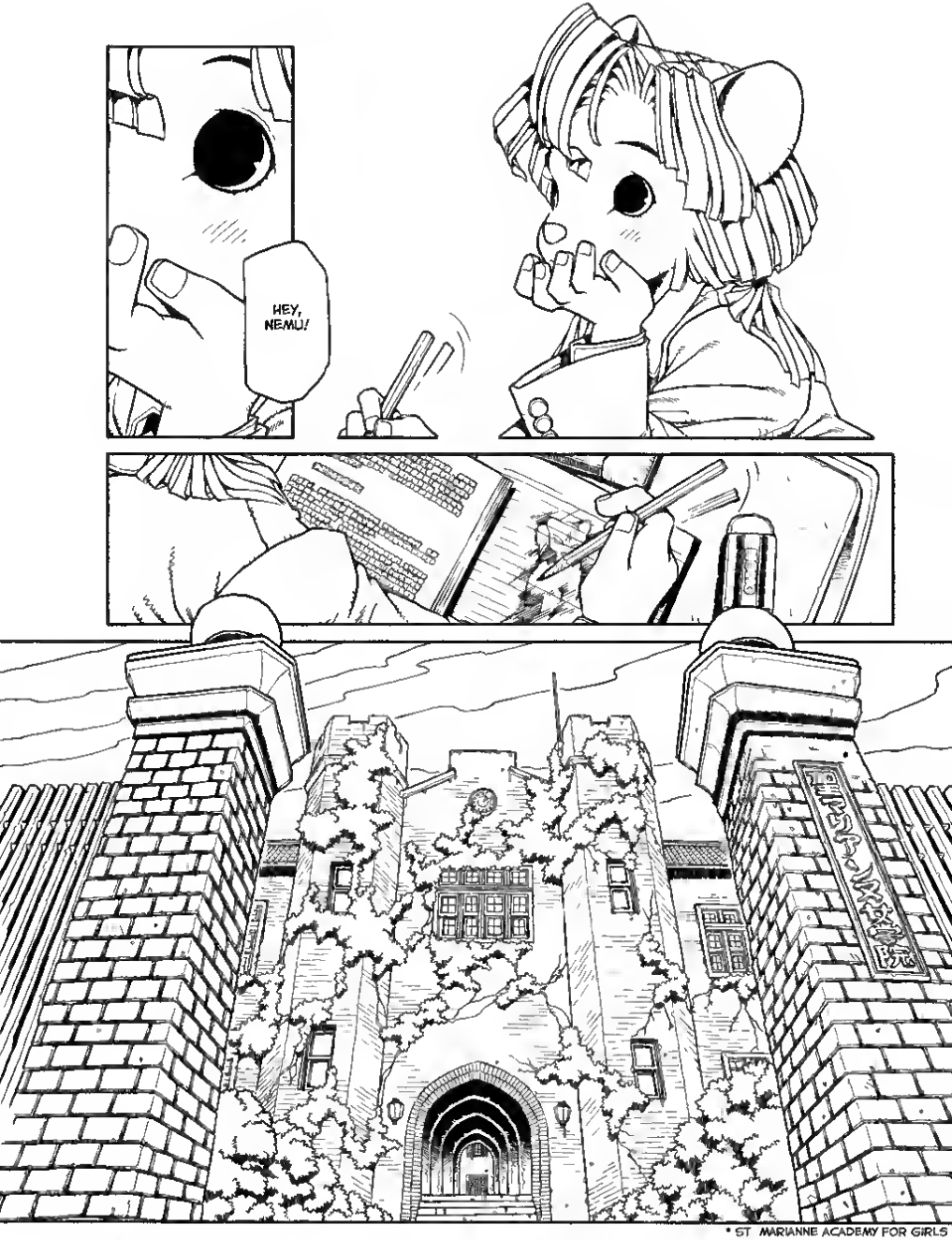
AND... THE TOTAL COMES TO 750 YEN.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SKLASH!
ガチャン!!
AH! NOW I'VE DONE IT.
MOM.

AH, NO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, NEMU-CHAN.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, DON'T COME BACK HERE.


ふこふこ
ぶるるん
ぶるるん
ぶるるん

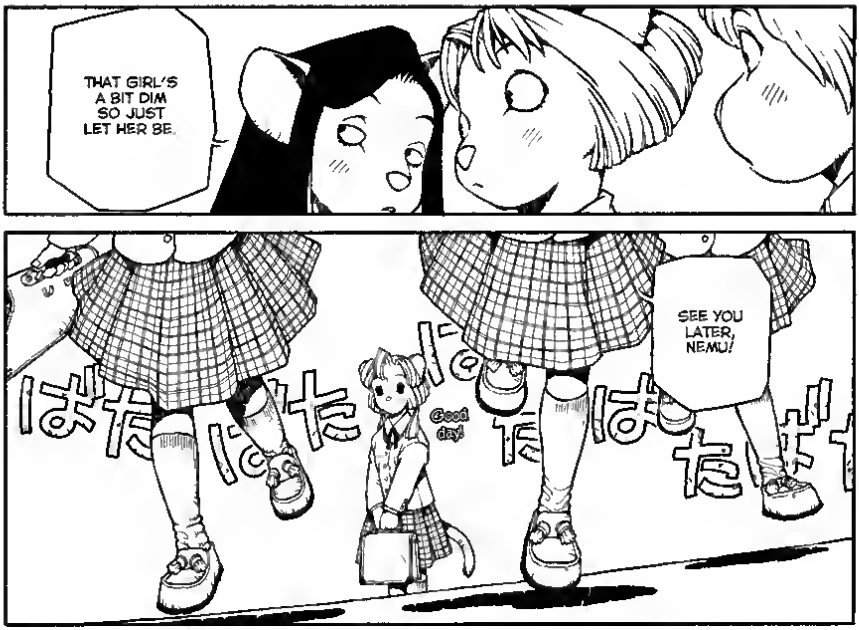
WITH THE DESOLATE DESERT OF THE SINAI PENINSULA AND THE DIFFERENCE IN TEMPERATURE BETWEEN DAY AND NIGHT...
...PEOPLE COULD NOT CONCEIVE OF THE EXISTENCE OF A SO-CALLED "GOD."
AND IT IS IN THAT CLIMATE THAT JESUS CHRIST...
NE. MU.
NEMU...

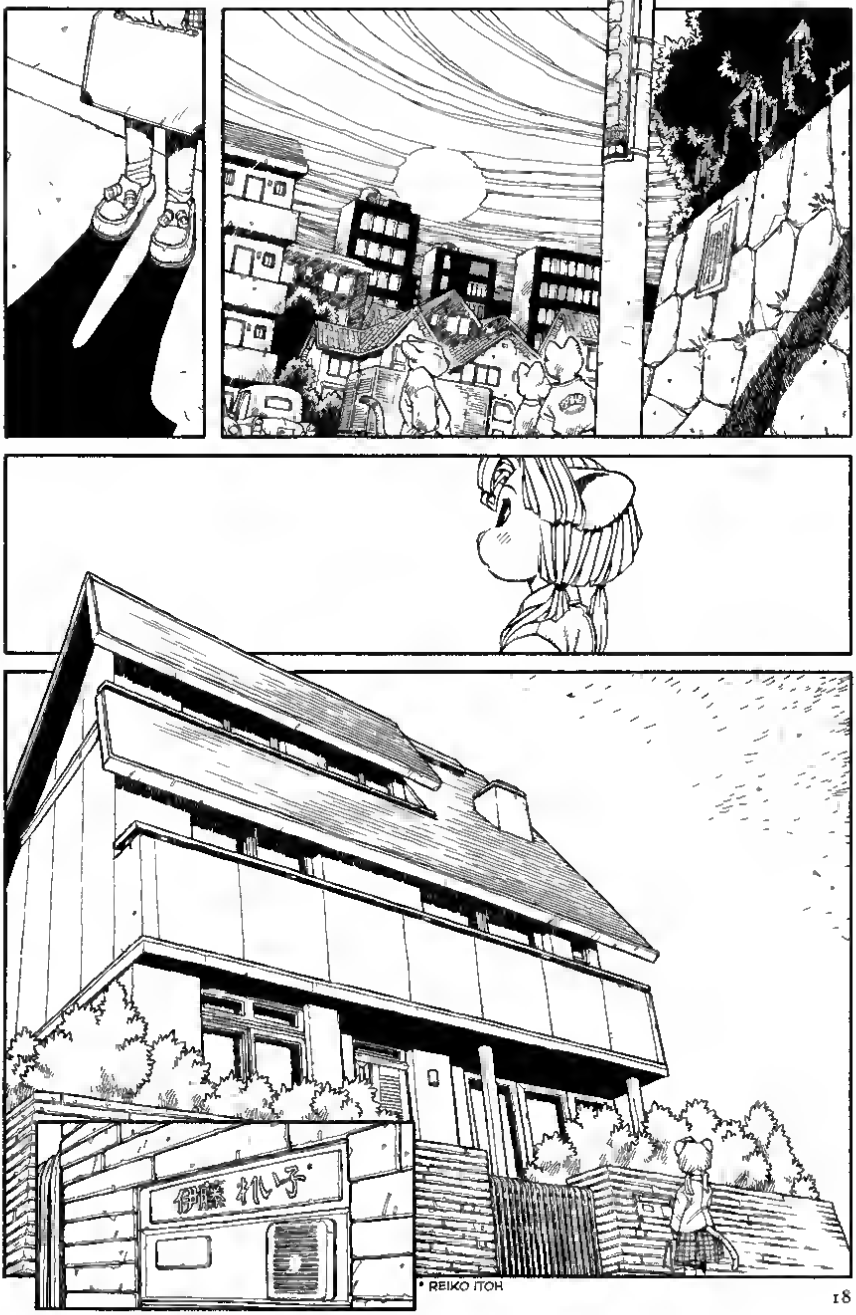


* ST. MARIANNE ACADEMY FOR GIRLS

HEY, LISTEN, MY SISTER ..
SHE WENT TO SEE SHINJI TAKEDA'S PLAY IN TOKYO.
YIKES!
SHE SAID IT WAS AWE-SOME!
IT HAD EVEN MORE NUDITY THAN THERE WAS IN YOSHIKI.
Get down From there this instant!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU GIRLS ARE DOING?!
So? And then ?
I want details!

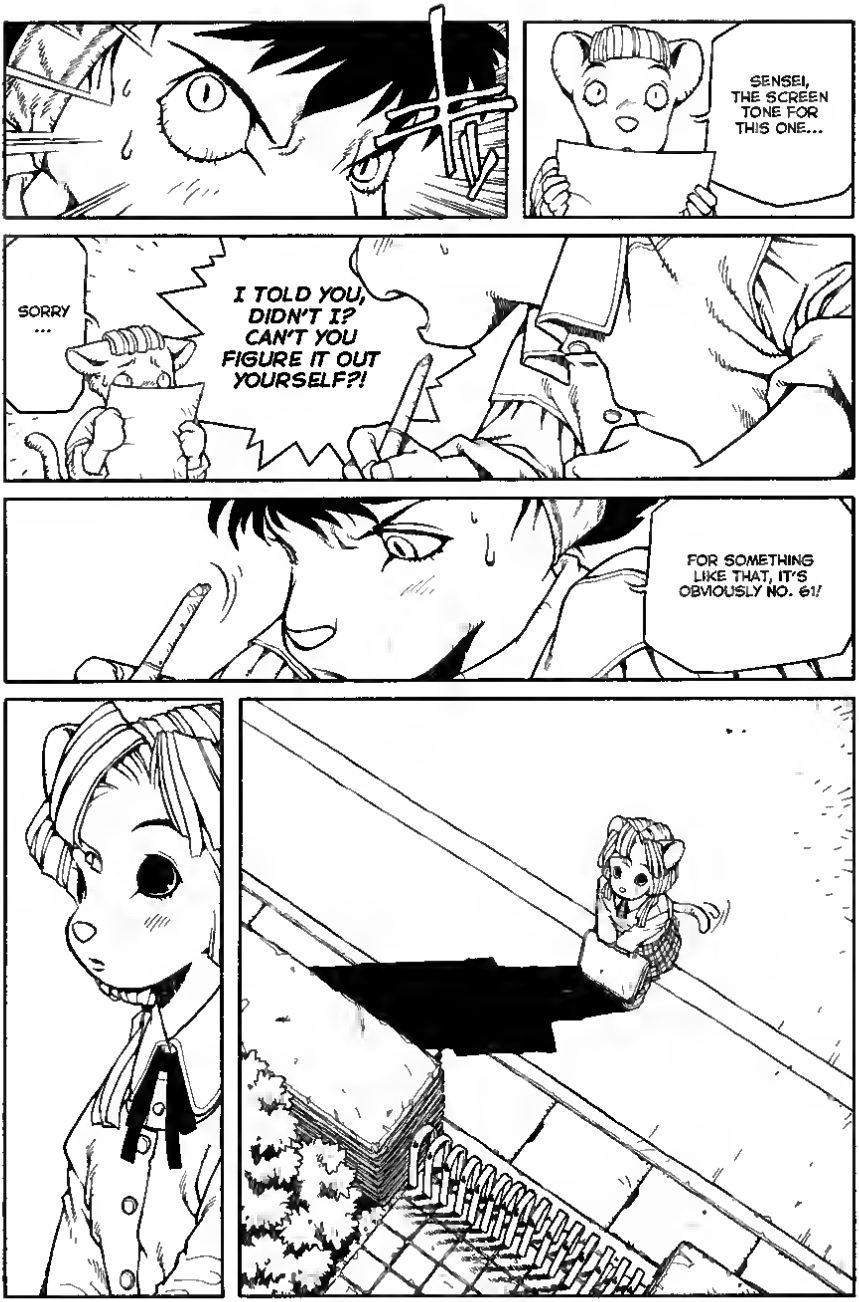
We will reflect on what happened with a positive attitude so it won't happen again.
Come to the faculty room for a bit...
We apologize!
GRR
GRRRR
GRR
GAAA—
GRRR
HEY, NEMU!
I'VE MASTERED A NEW SONG. LET'S GO TO THE KARAOKE BOX!
HUH ?
See you tomorrow!
Good day to you!
...DON'T KNOW ANY SONGS AT ALL.
I'M SORRY, BUT I...


THAT GIRL'S A BIT DIM SO JUST LET HER BE.
SEE YOU LATER, NEMU!
Good day!

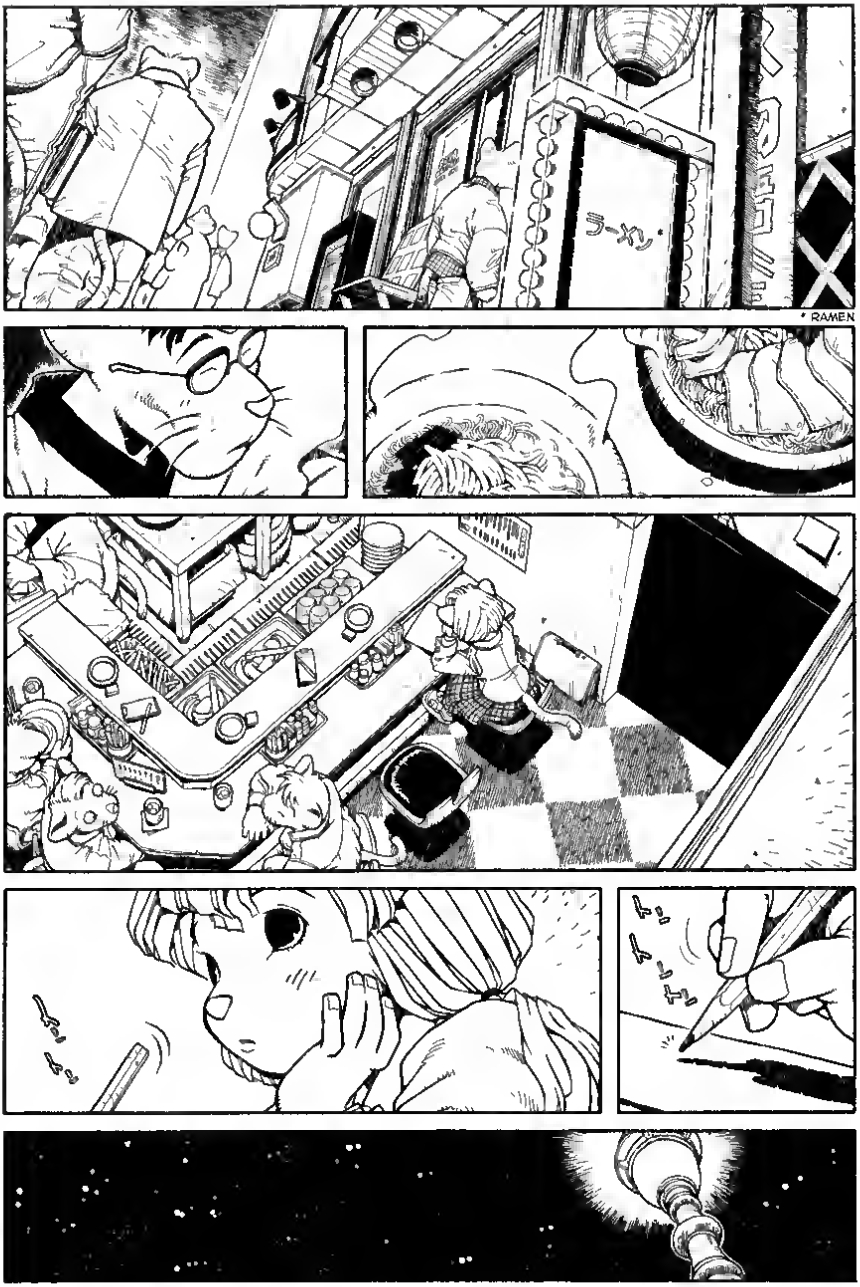


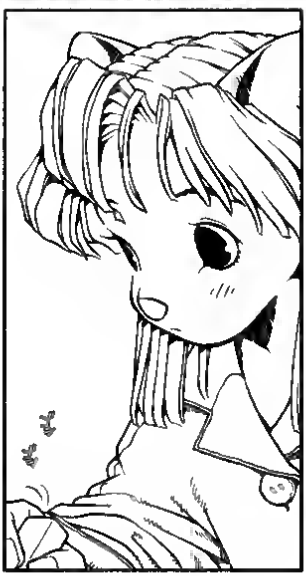
• REIKO ITOH

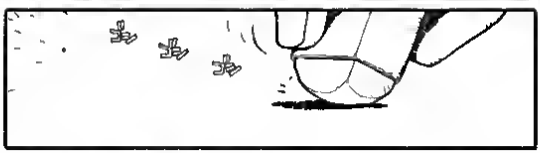
RRING
RRING
SOMEONE GET THAT.
AH, OKAY.

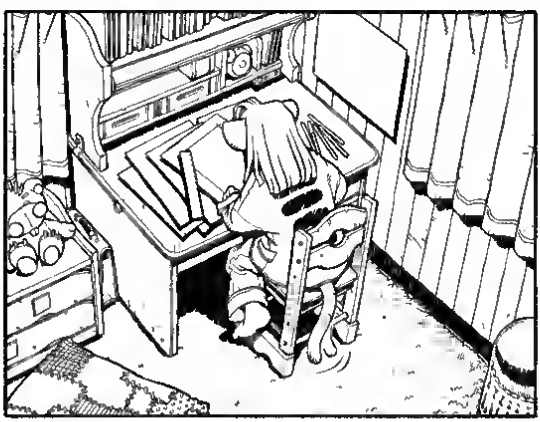

SENSEI, THE SCREEN TONE FOR THIS ONE...
SORRY ...
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? CAN'T YOU FIGURE IT OUT YOURSELF?!
FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, IT'S OBVIOUSLY NO. 61!

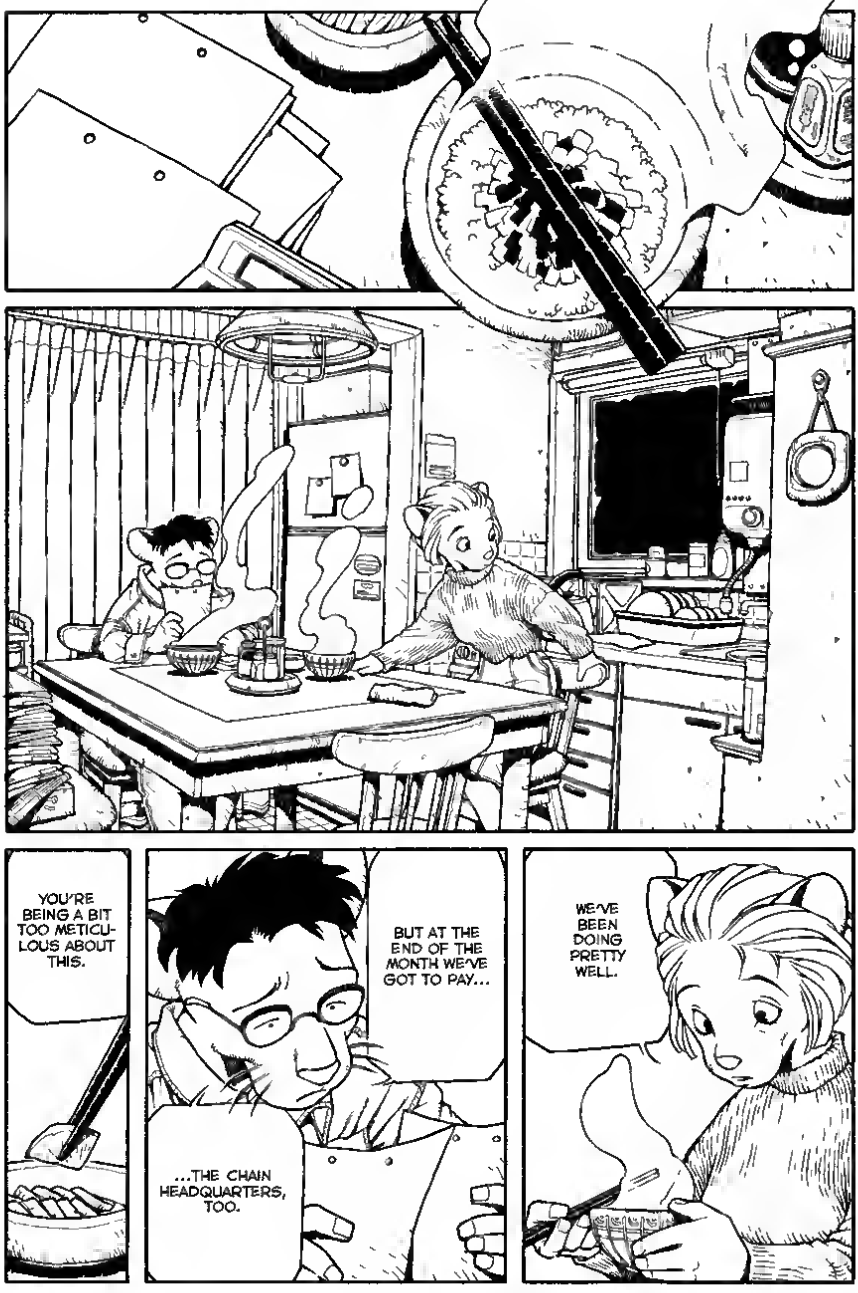
...
CLUNK

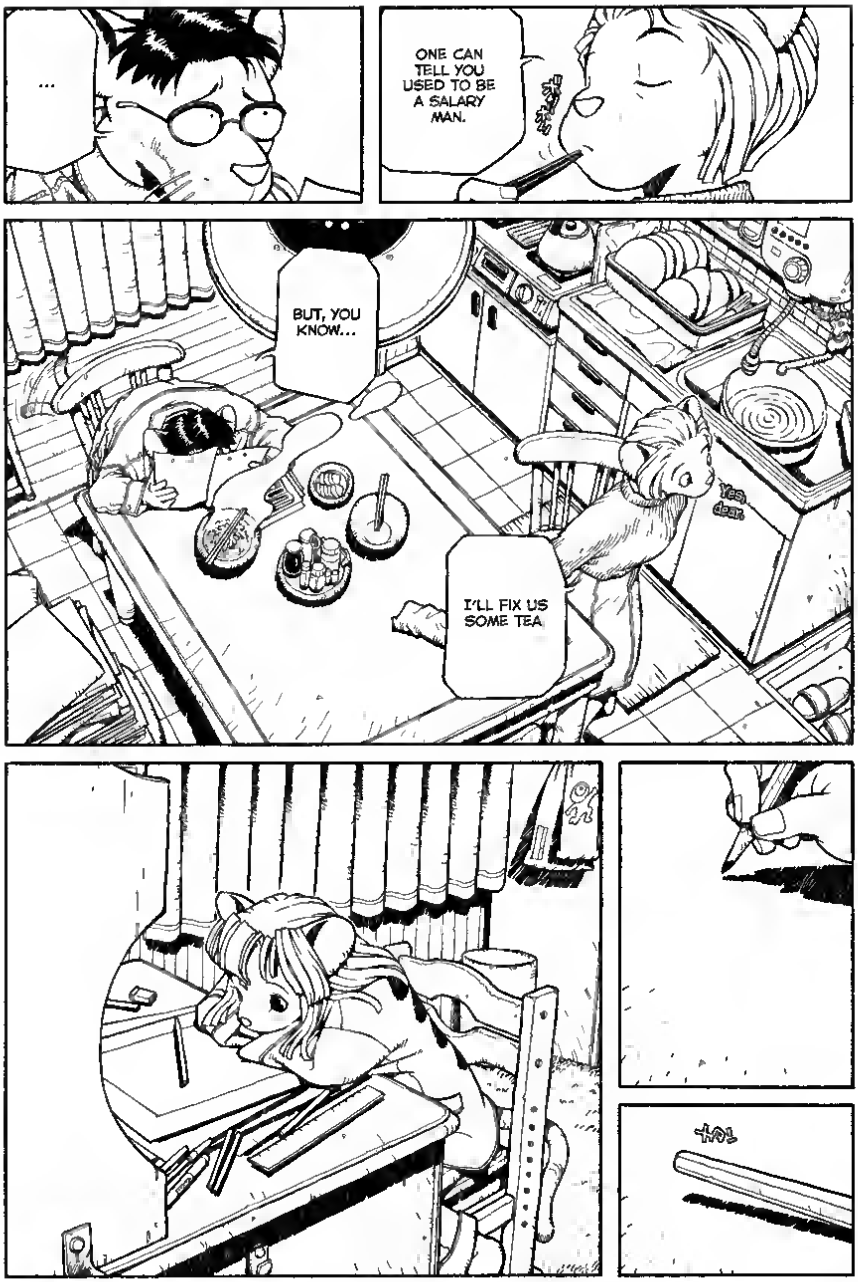

ラーメン
* RAMEN

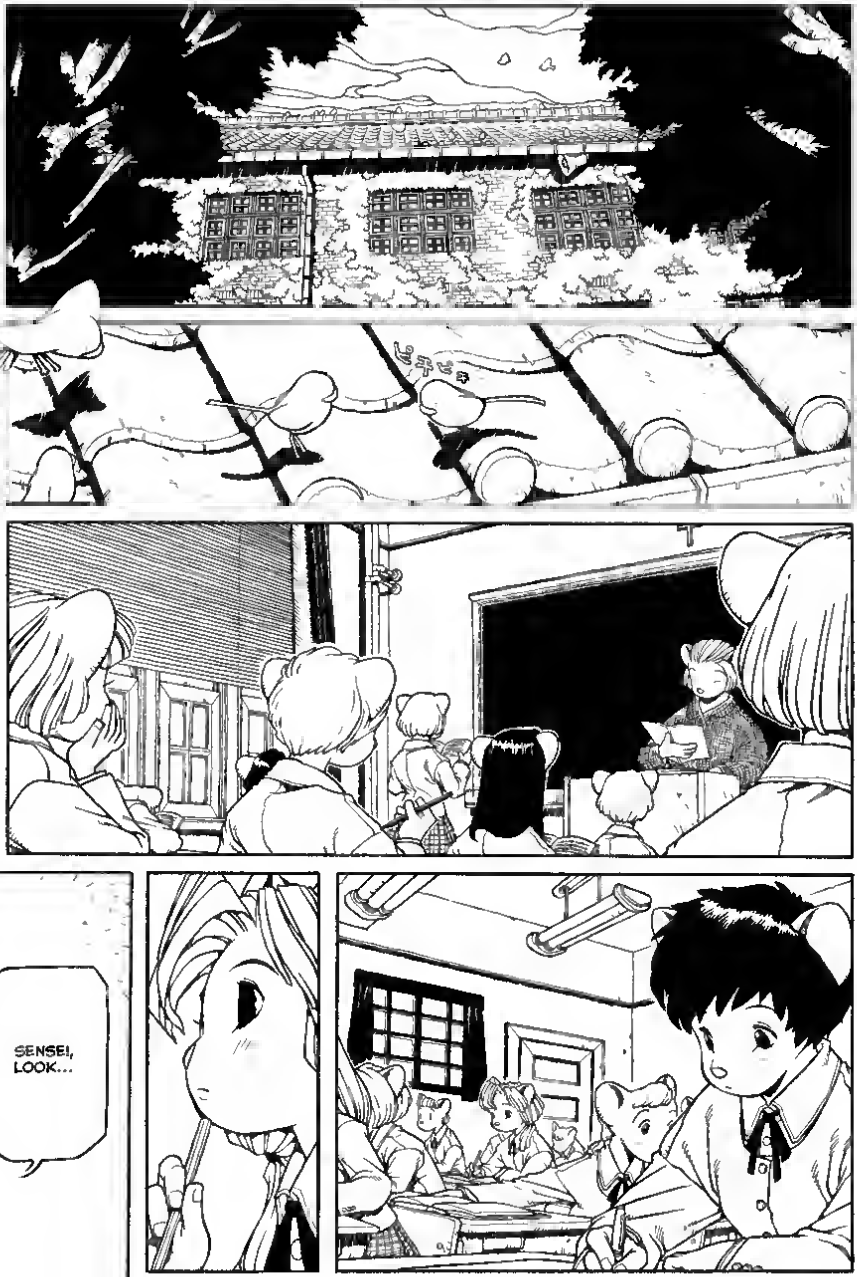




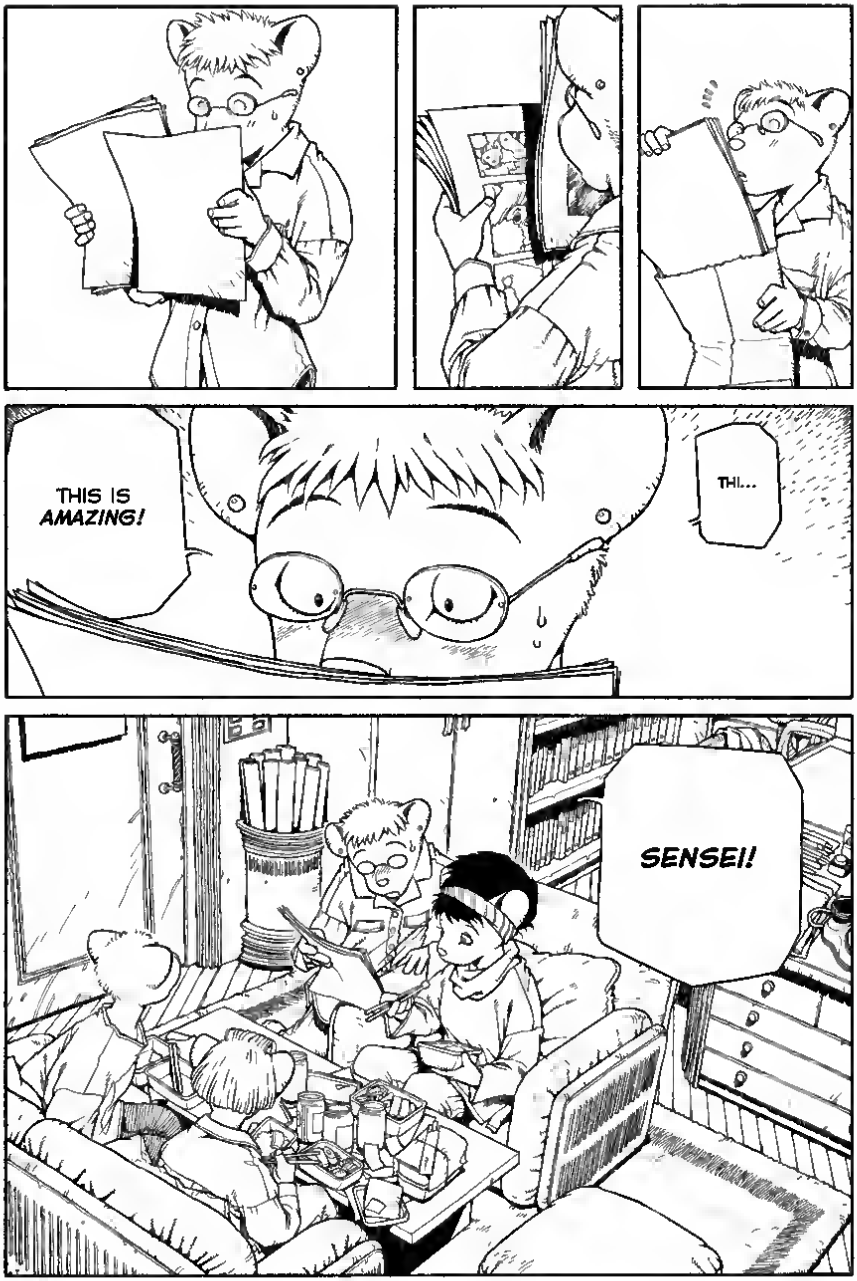


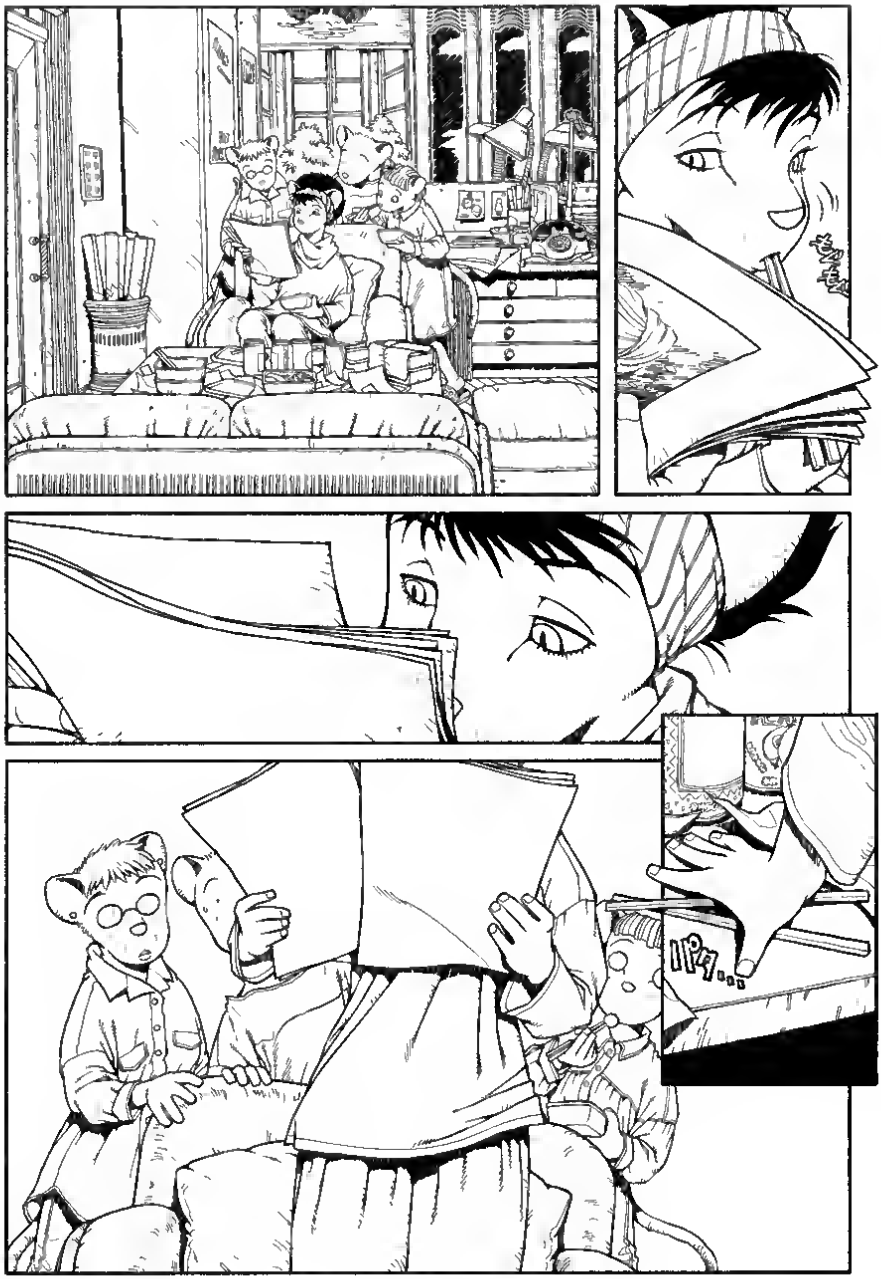

YOU'RE BEING A BIT TOO METICULOUS ABOUT THIS.
BUT AT THE END OF THE MONTH WE'VE GOT TO PAY...
...THE CHAIN HEADQUARTERS, TOO.
WE'VE BEEN DOING PRETTY WELL.


...
ONE CAN TELL YOU USED TO BE A SALARY MAN.
BUT, YOU KNOW...
I'LL FIX US SOME TEA.
Yes dear.


SENSEI, LOOK...

THIS WAS LEFT IN THE MAILBOX...
WHAT COULD IT BE...?

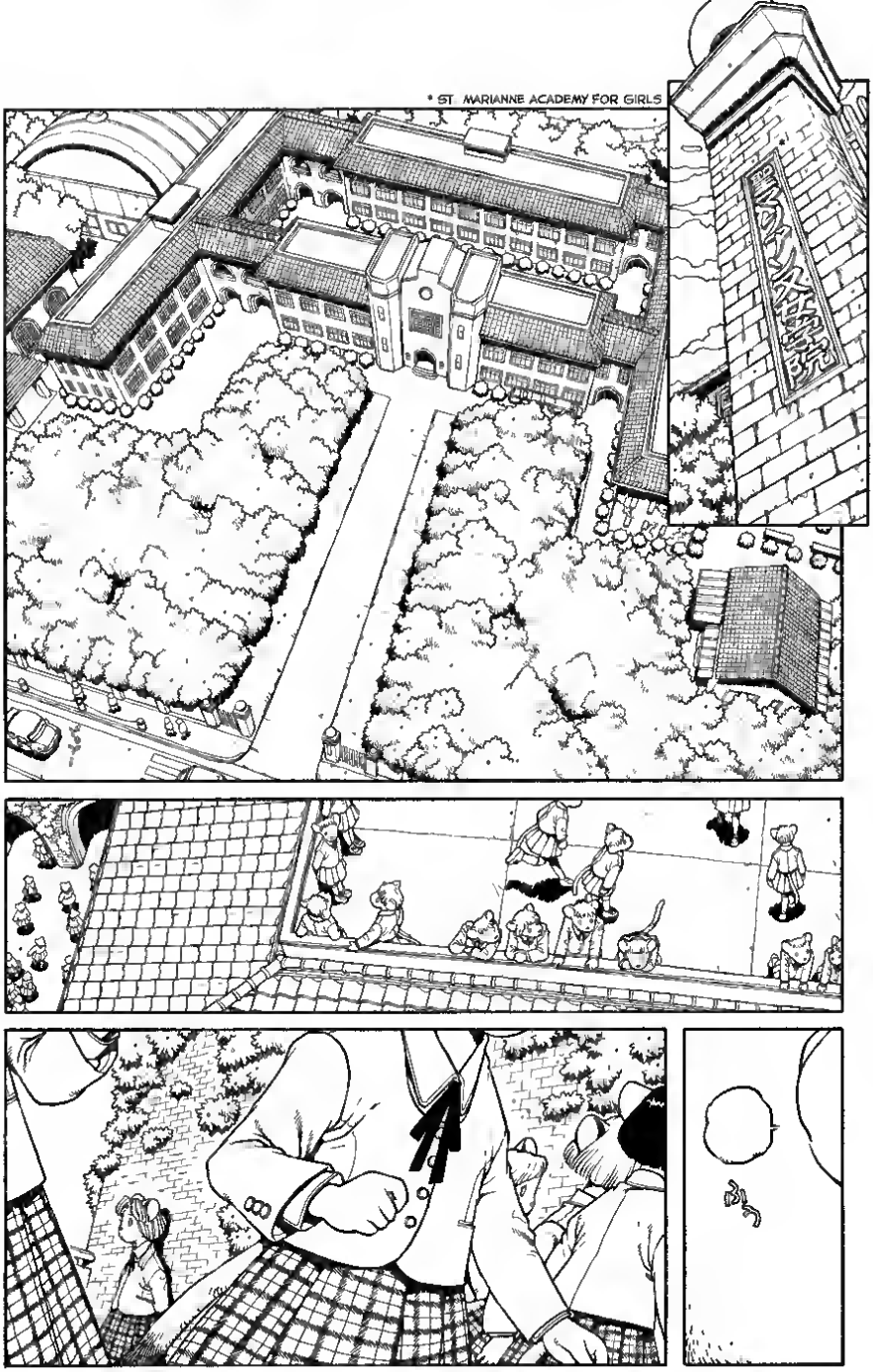

THIS IS
AMAZING!
THI...
SENSEI!

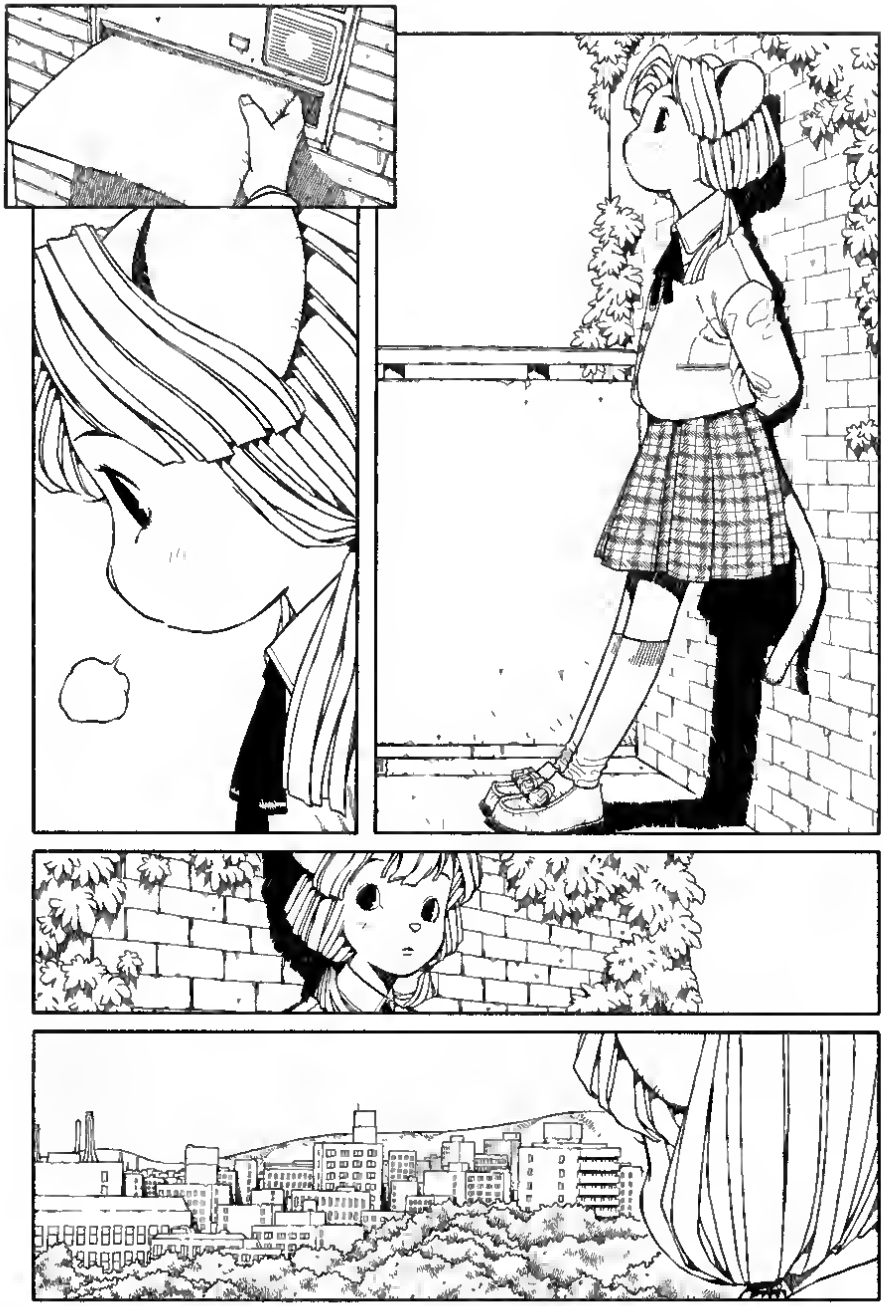

そうね
ハア...

THIS KID...
Y-YES!
GET ME THIS KID AT ONCE!
Nemu
HUH?

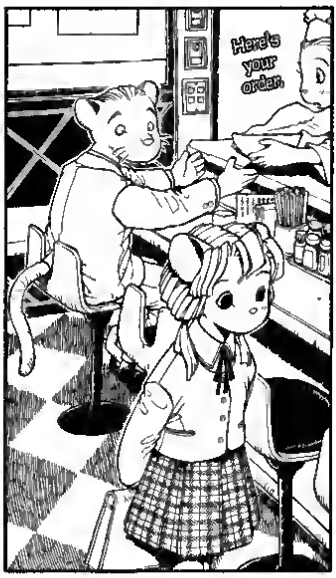
HOW ARE WE..
...SUPPOSED TO CONTACT THEM LIKE THIS?
I DON'T KNOW...

Vol. 2: A Premonition


* ST. MARIANNE ACADEMY FOR GIRLS
聖マリアンヌ女学院



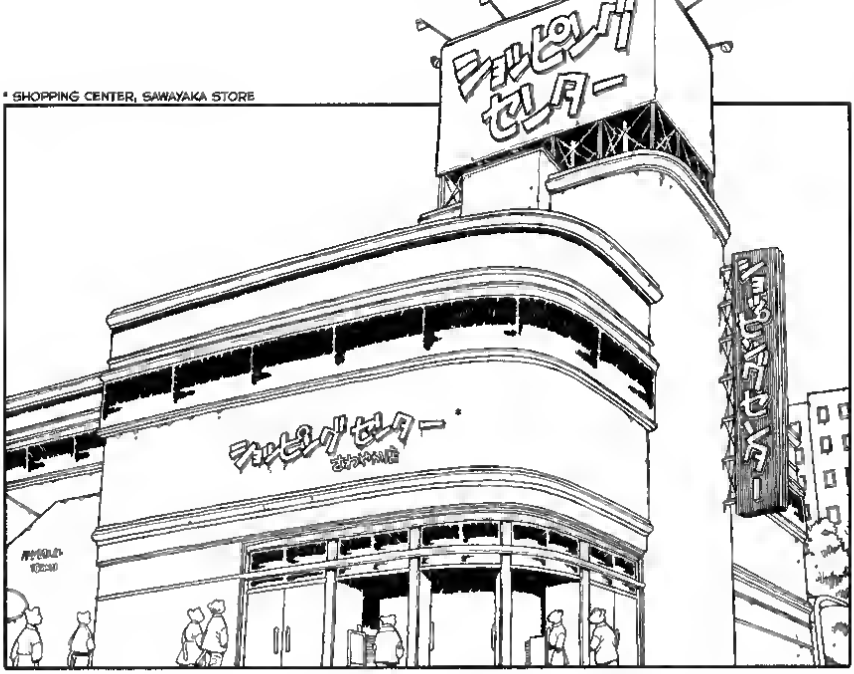
麺吉
WELCOME, PLEASE COME--
YOU MEAN, "WELCOME BACK."

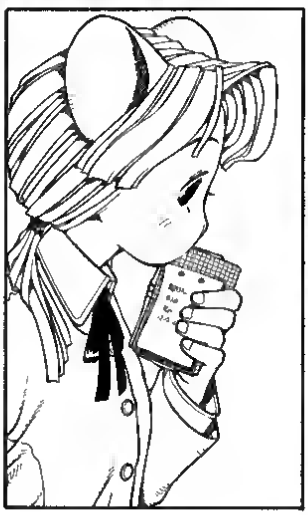

Here's your order.

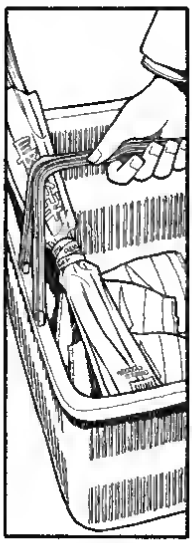
HELLO, NEMU.

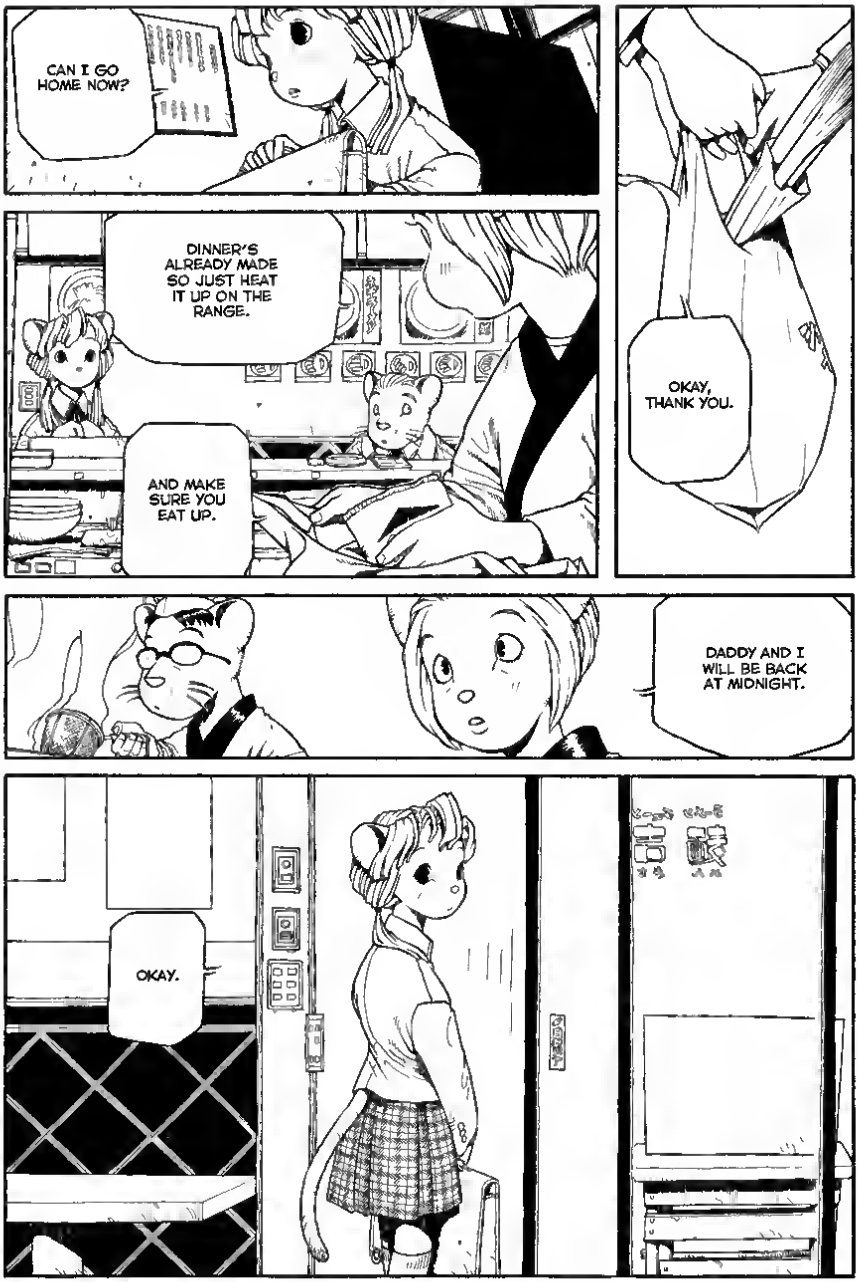
OHH ..
EVERYDAY SHE STOPS BY ON HER WAY HOME AND HELPS OUT WITH SHOPPING AND SUCH...
YES, WE'RE SHORT-STAFFED HERE, SO...
IS THAT YOUR DAUGHTER?
HOW ABOUT SOME RAMEN?
SHE WON'T EAT ANY OF OUR RAMEN AT ALL.
©hp
NO THANKS.
UMM, GREEN ONIONS, SALT, AND...
HERE'S THE LIST.
MAYBE IT DOESN'T TASTE GOOD...
HA HA HA!

* SHOPPING CENTER, SAWAYAKA STORE





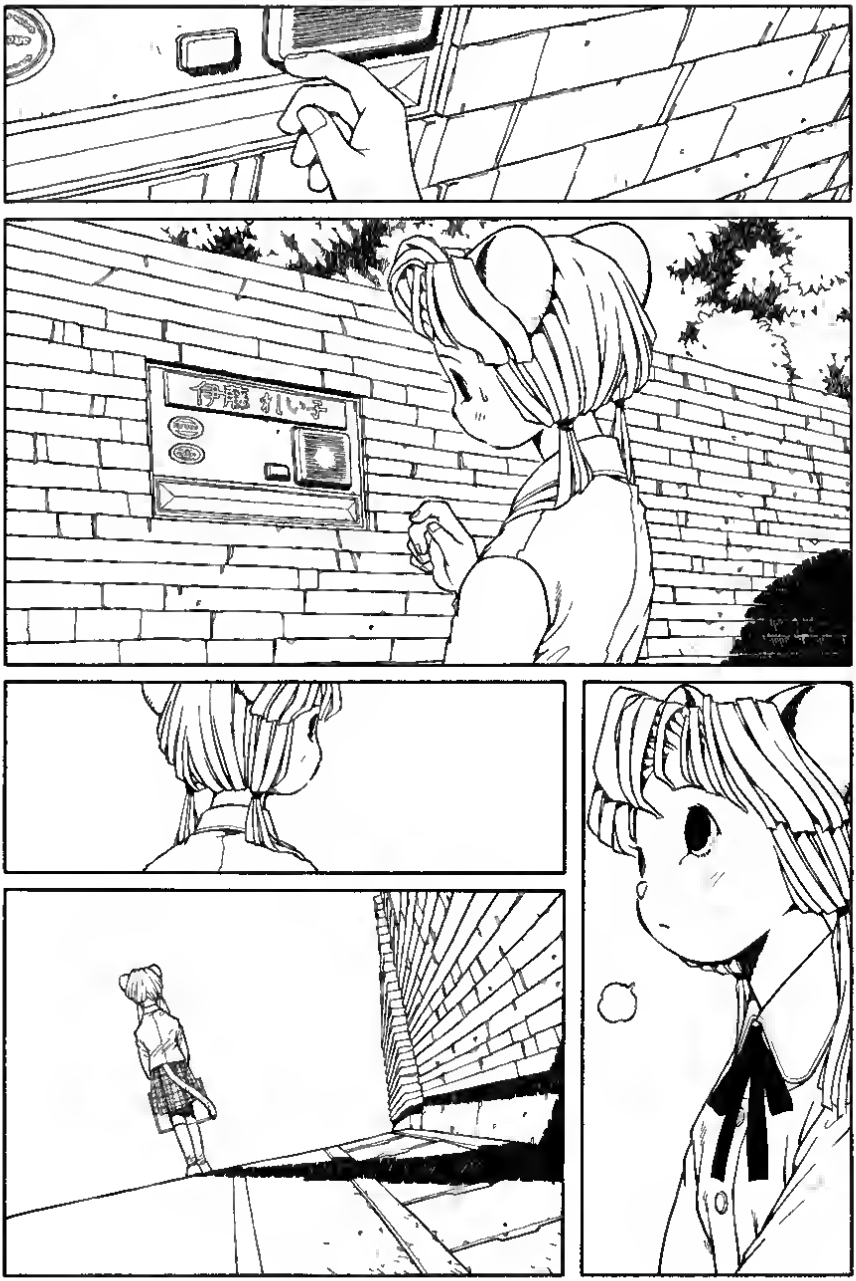


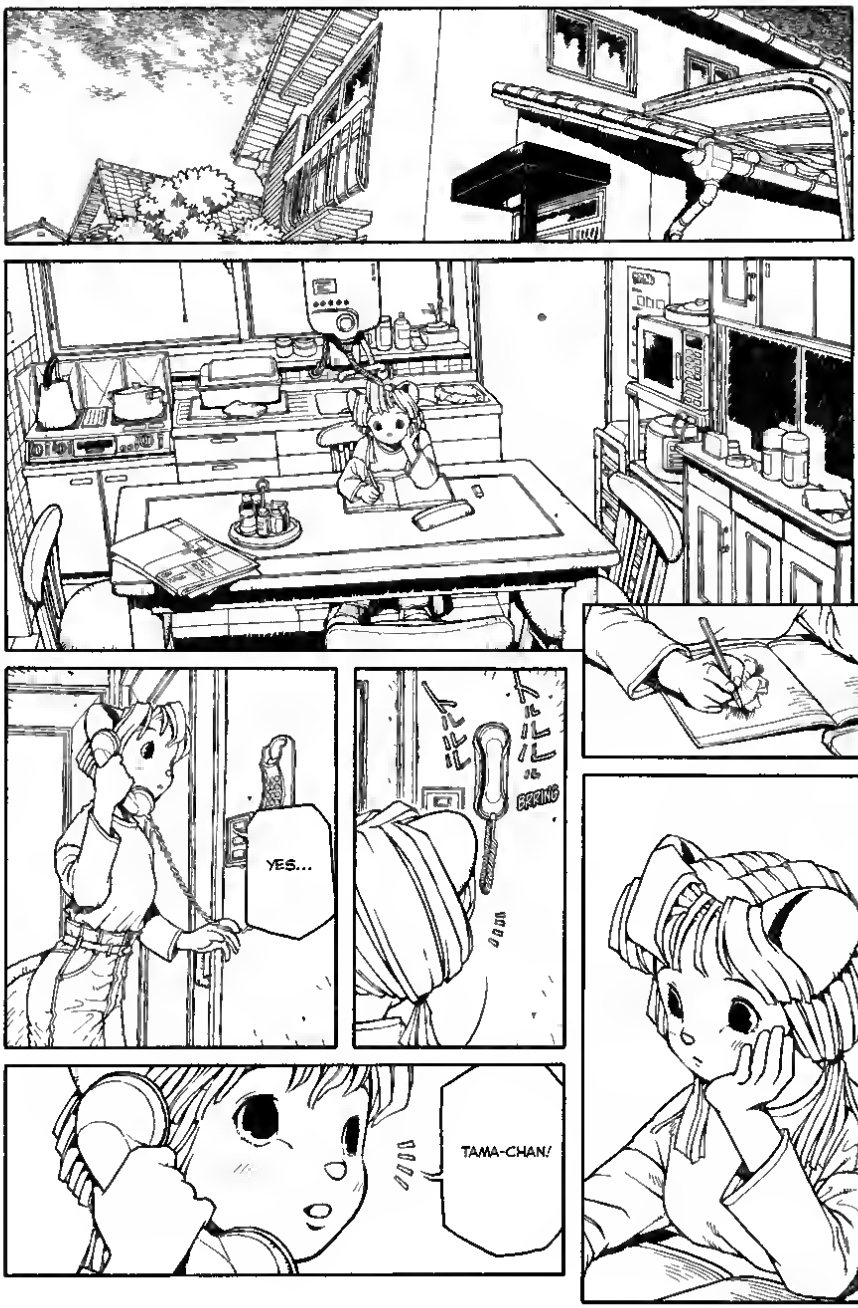

CAN I GO HOME NOW?
DINNER'S ALREADY MADE SO JUST HEAT IT UP ON THE RANGE.
AND MAKE SURE YOU EAT UP.
OKAY, THANK YOU.
DADDY AND I WILL BE BACK AT MIDNIGHT.
OKAY.

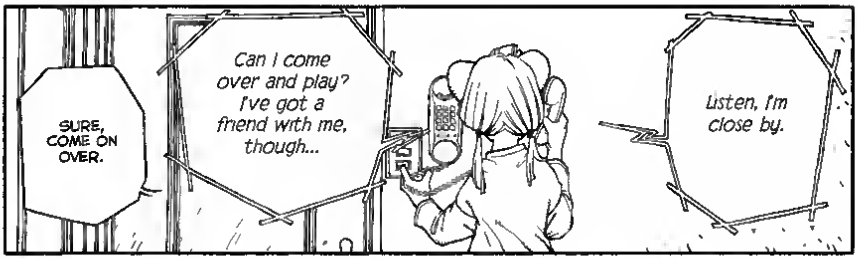
SHE'S GOT IT TOUGH.
わん
うーわんわん
ギィ…

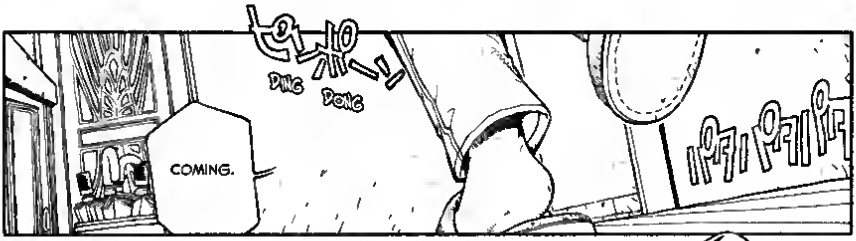
伊藤れい子

INK THIS PLEASE!
YES.
HURRY UP!
IT'S THE EDITOR...
SENSEI...
...
HE'S ASKING IF THE MANUSCRIPT IS DONE YET...
GIVE IT HERE!

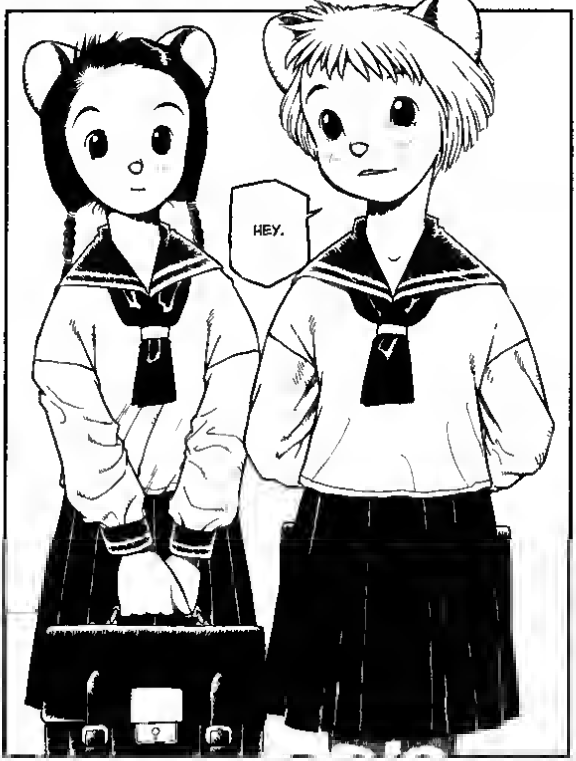

伊藤かい子

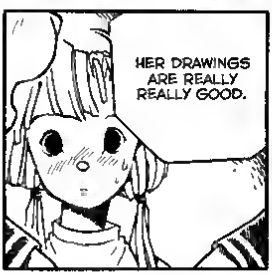

YES...
BRRING
TAMA-CHAN!


Can I come over and play? I've got a friend with me, though...
Listen, I'm close by.
SURE, COME ON OVER.


DING DONG
COMING.

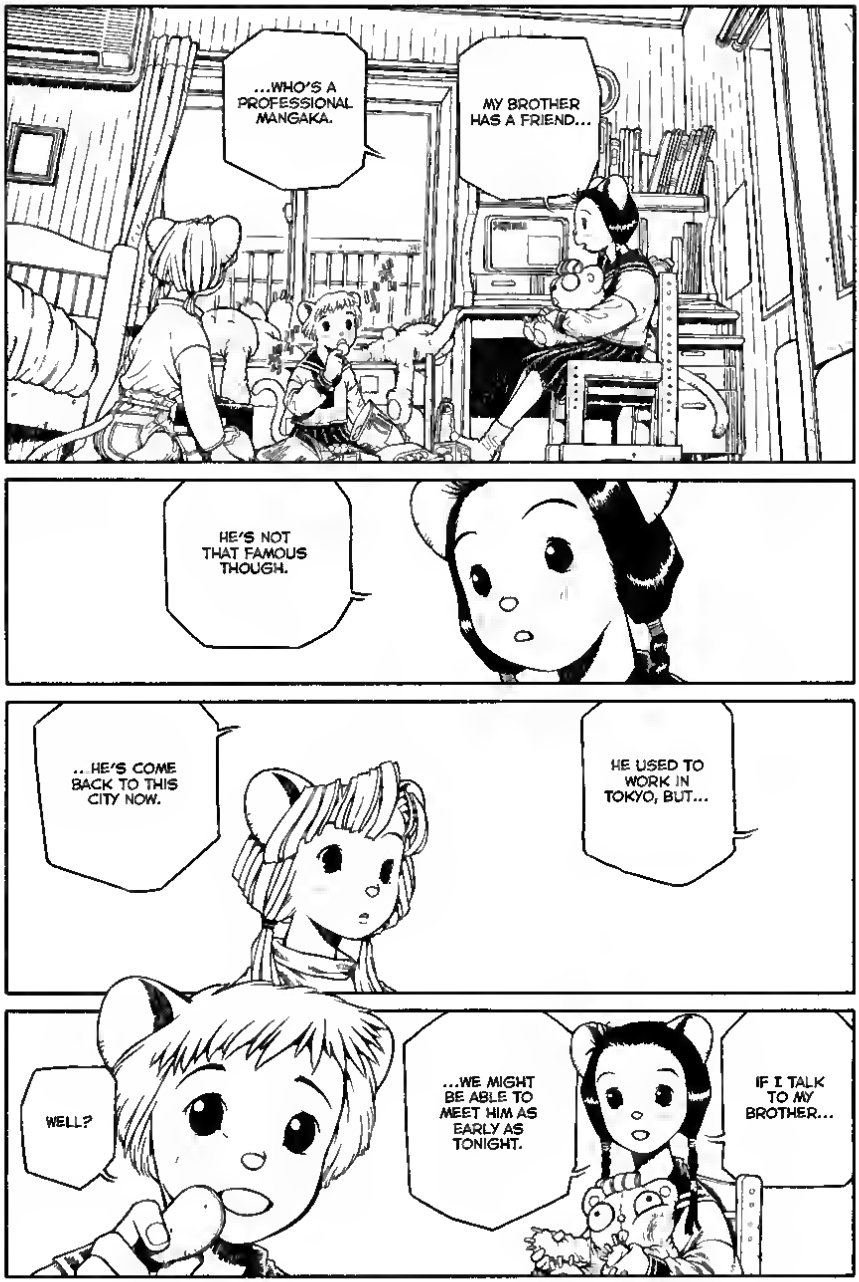
THIS IS MY COUSIN, NEMU
SHE WANTS TO BE A SHOUJO MANGAKA.

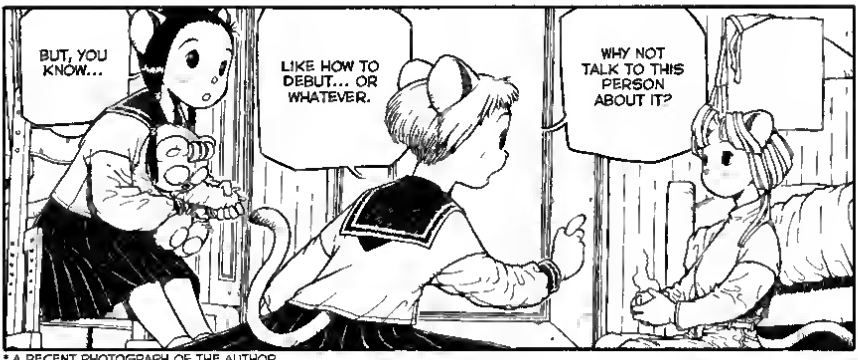

HEY.


HER DRAWINGS ARE REALLY REALLY GOOD.

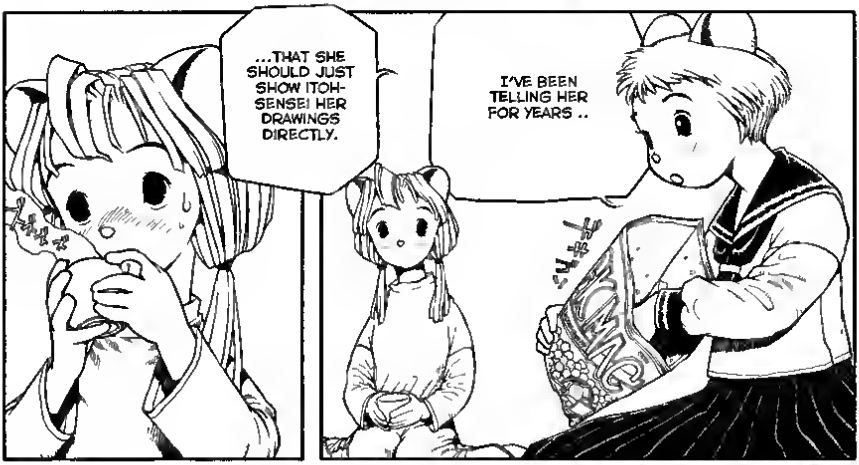
WOOOW!
I KNOW, RIGHT?
Yup Yup
SHE COULD MAKE HER DEBUT RIGHT AWAY WITH THIS...

...
HEY, NEMU, YOU NEED TO BE A LITTLE BIT MORE PROACTIVE ABOUT IT!
SO...
HUH...?!
EHEHE...
THERE'S A REASON WHY I BROUGHT RYOKO OVER HERE...

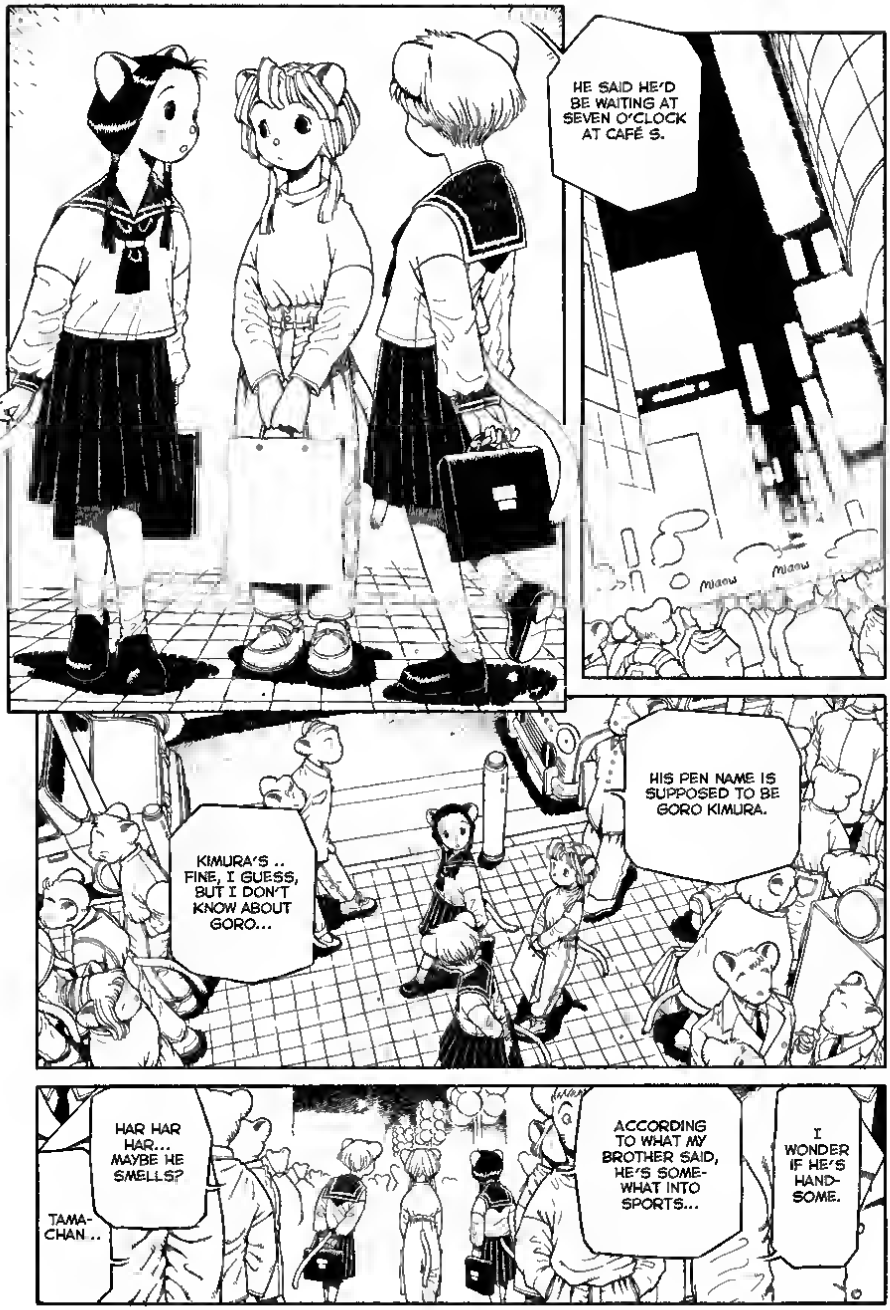

...WHO'S A PROFESSIONAL MANGAKA.
MY BROTHER HAS A FRIEND...
HE'S NOT THAT FAMOUS THOUGH.
.. HE'S COME BACK TO THIS CITY NOW.
HE USED TO WORK IN TOKYO, BUT...
WELL?
...WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEET HIM AS EARLY AS TONIGHT.
IF I TALK TO MY BROTHER...



* A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH OF THE AUTHOR



WELL, I'M GONNA GIVE HIM A CALL.
BUT NEMU'S TOO TIMID FOR HER OWN GOOD. I MEAN...
SHE'S LACKING ANY INITIATIVE OF HER OWN.
TONIGHT ?
HUH?
...
YOUR PARENTS WILL BE BACK AROUND MIDNIGHT AFTER THEY CLOSE THE RES-TAURANT, RIGHT?!
UH-HUH.
UH-HUH.
WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME.


HE SAID HE'D BE WAITING AT SEVEN O'CLOCK AT CAFÉ S.
Miaow
Miaow
KIMURA'S .. FINE, I GUESS, BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT GORO...
HIS PEN NAME IS SUPPOSED TO BE GORO KIMURA.
TAMA-CHAN ..
HAR HAR HAR... MAYBE HE SMELLS?
ACCORDING TO WHAT MY BROTHER SAID, HE'S SOME-WHAT INTO SPORTS...
I WONDER IF HE'S HAND-SOME.

S [es]
S [es]
HMM?
AH... THERE HE IS.
THERE'S NOBODY HERE.

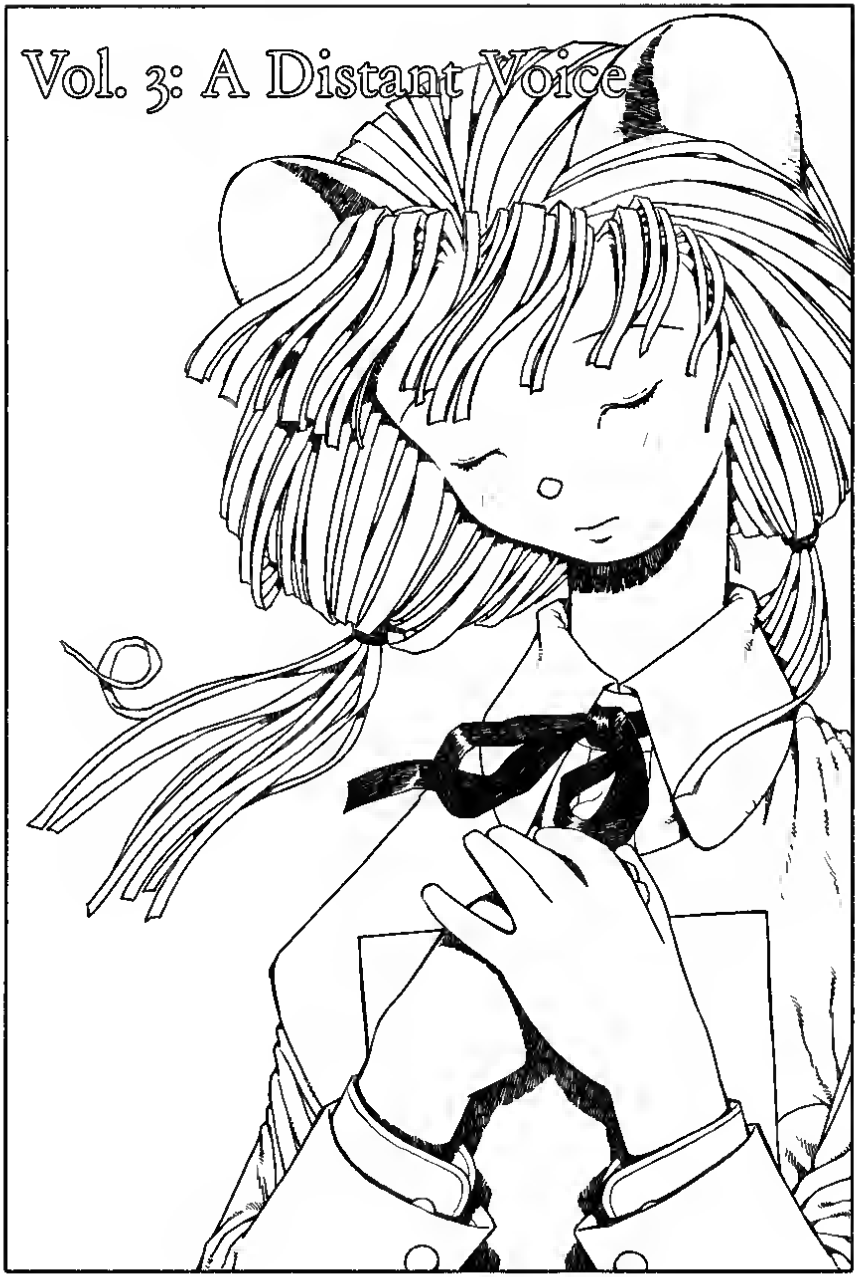
NOBODY ELSE IS THERE...
THAT'S HIM.. I GUESS?
I... FEEL LIKE...
WE MIGHT BE KILLED...
TAMA-CHAN...

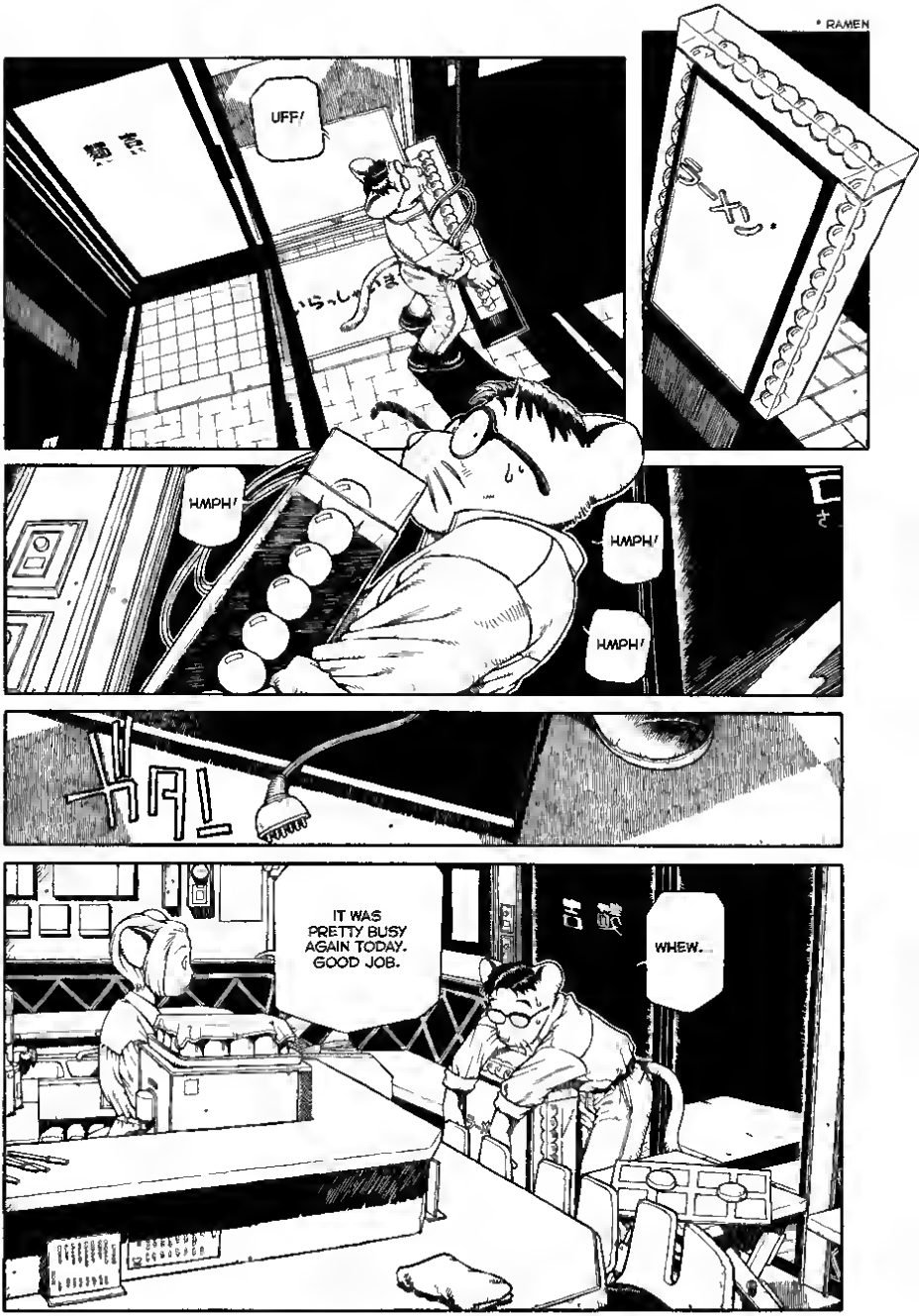
EXCUSE ME...
キロ...
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
ARE YOU KIMURA-SAN?
A-

Good luck!
EOW
I'M...
NEMU.
I THINK MY BROTHER ALREADY TOLD YOU, BUT THERE'S THIS GIRL WHO WANTS TO BECOME A MANGAKA...
Nemu, don't run away.
...SO WE BROUGHT HER HERE.
ジリリ...
フゥ...

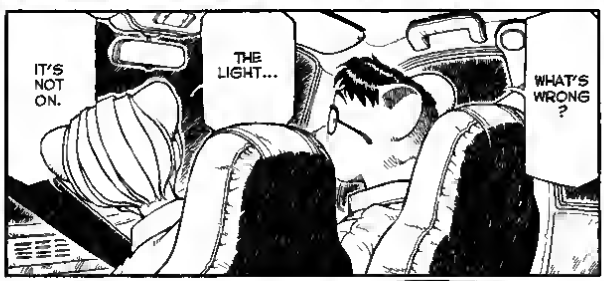
Vol. 2: A Premonition • End

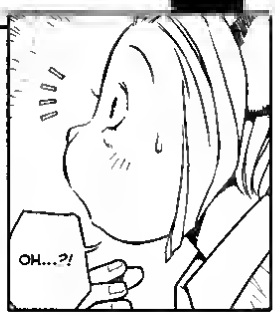
Vol. 3: A Distant Voice

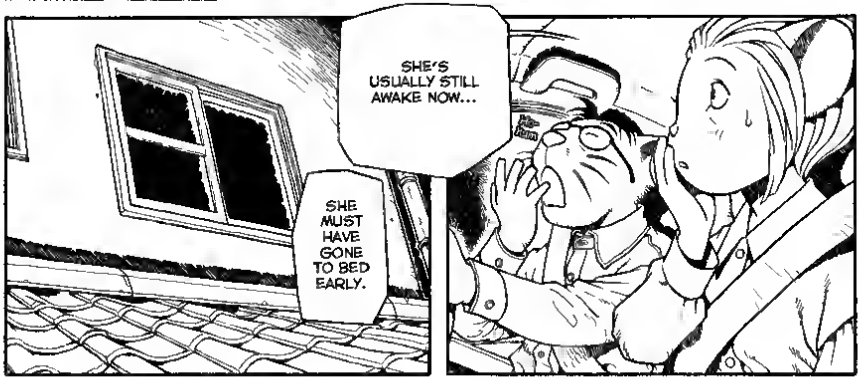



* RAMEN
UFF!
HMPH!
HMPH!
HMPH!
WHEW...
IT WAS PRETTY BUSY AGAIN TODAY. GOOD JOB.

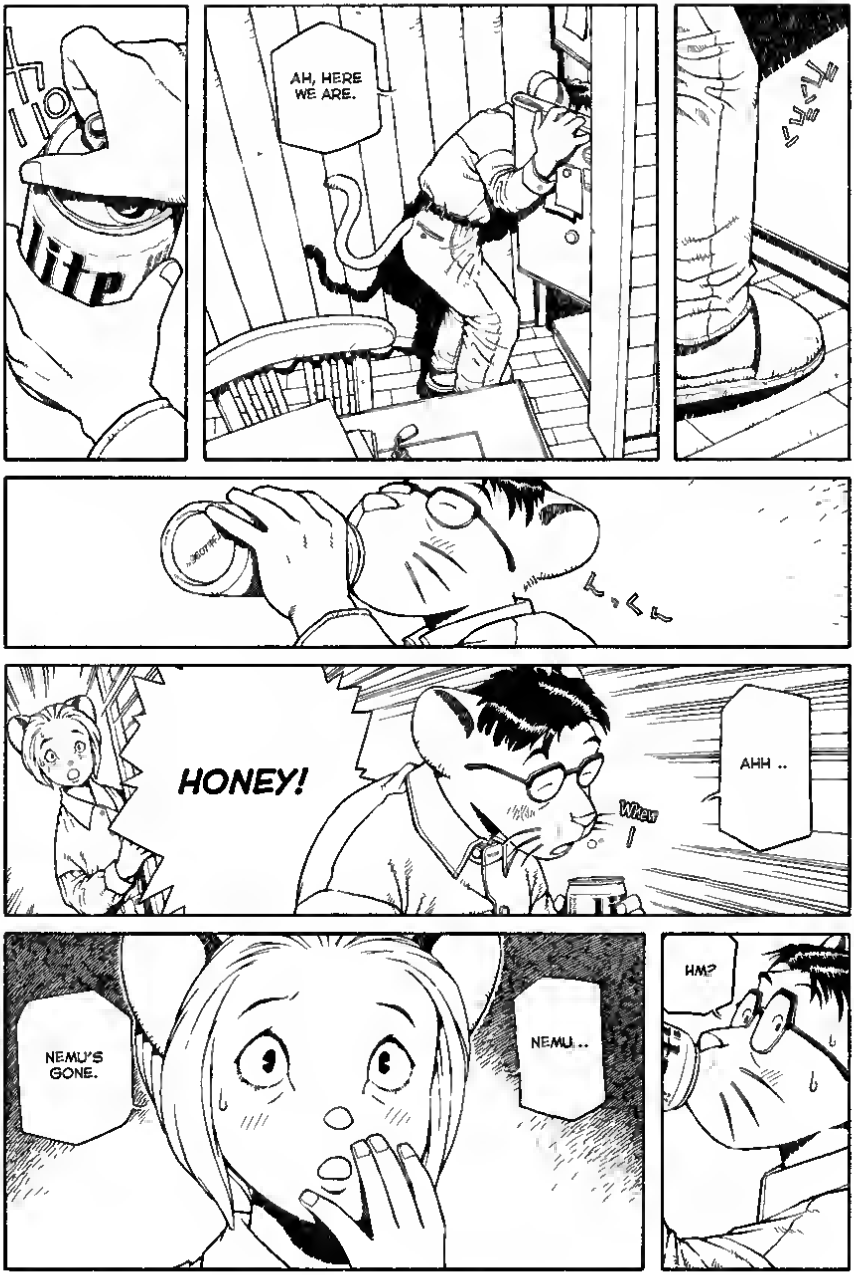
パチ
NOW THEN...
ブッブー


IT'S NOT ON.
THE LIGHT...
WHAT'S WRONG?


OH...?!


SHE'S USUALLY STILL AWAKE NOW...
SHE MUST HAVE GONE TO BED EARLY.

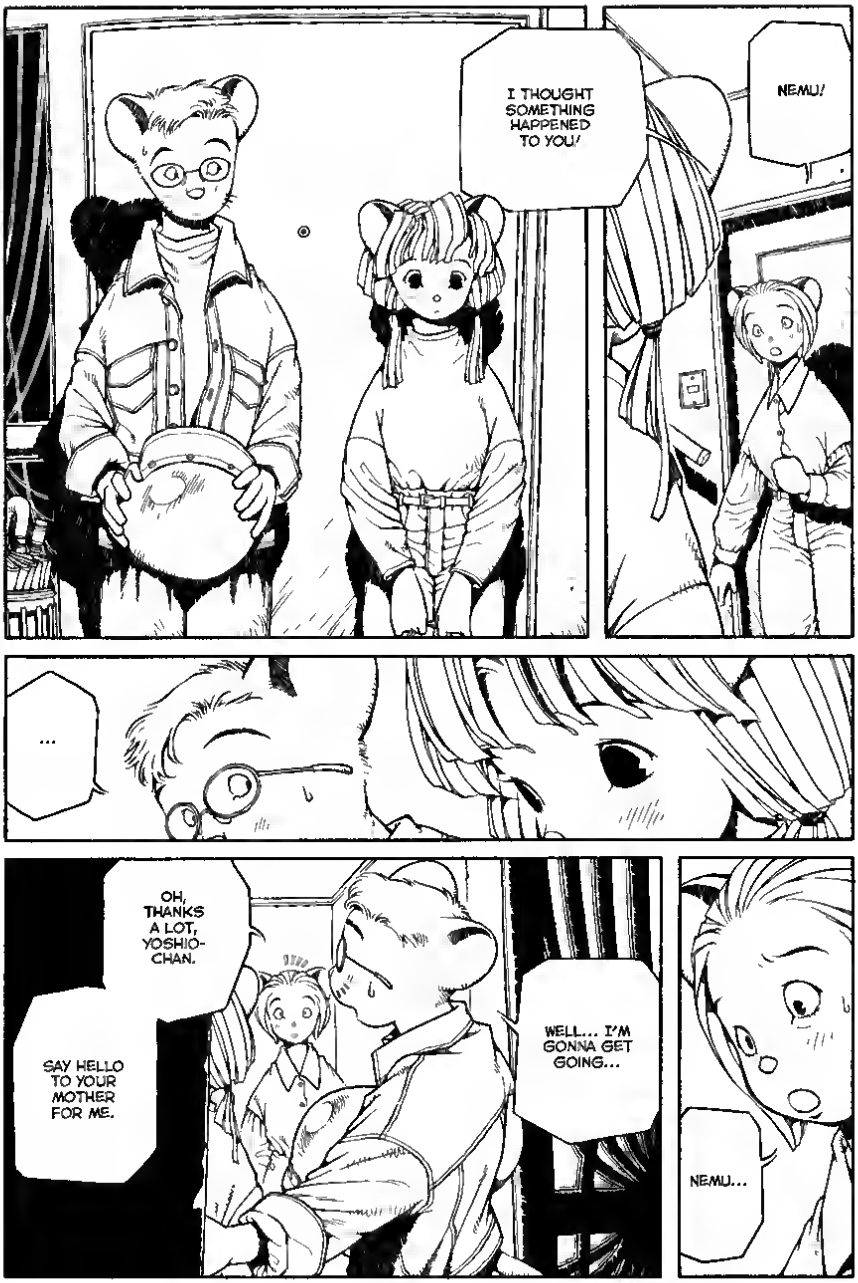
WE'RE HOME.
NEMU-CHAN!
NEMU


AH, HERE WE ARE.
HONEY!
AHH ..
WHEW
NEMU'S GONE.
NEMU ..
HM?

BUT THINK ABOUT THE TIME..
SHE PROBABLY WENT TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE OR SOMETHING
IT'S MIDNIGHT SHE DOESN'T USUALLY...
HUM...
...WE'VE BEEN COMPLETELY PREOCCUPIED WITH THE RESTAURANT...
SINCE YOU QUIT YOUR JOB..
HONEY... WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
I... I WAS JUST KIDDING.
T-THINNER ?!
DO YOU THINK SHE MIGHT BE OUT WITH SOME DELINQUENTS SNIFFING THINNER?

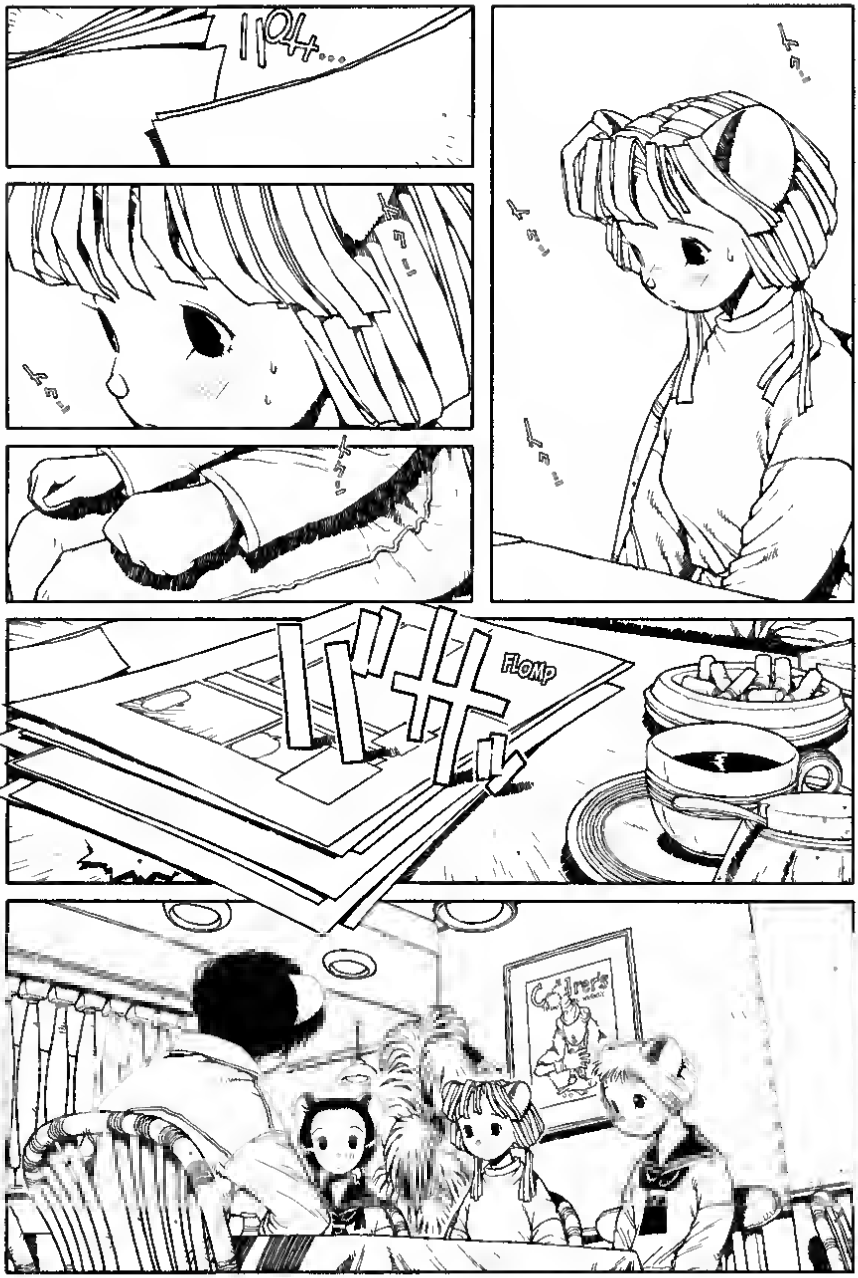
RRIING
RRIING
RRIING
Oh, hi Auntie, it's Tama.
YES...
UM... WELL...
TAMA-CHAN...

...BEFORE WE KNEW IT, IT GOT REALLY LATE, SORRY.
She should be back soon.
My brother's taking Nemu home on his bike right now.
NEMU AND I WERE WATCHING A MOVIE TOGETHER IN MY ROOM, AND...
I SEE .. WE WERE SO WORRIED.
WA HA HA HA!
BROOM BROOM BROOM


I THOUGHT SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU!
NEMU!
...
OH, THANKS A LOT, YOSHIO-CHAN.
SAY HELLO TO YOUR MOTHER FOR ME.
WELL... I'M GONNA GET GOING...
NEMU...

HEY, DON'T NAG HER SO MUCH.
BUT, HONEY...
I HEARD YOU WERE WATCHING A MOVIE AT TAMA-CHAN'S PLACE?
NOW GO TAKE A BATH AND GO TO BED.
THAT'S FINE.
Right then...
Jeez. You're being too lenient...

HAAAHHH
Sles]


HA...
FLOMP

COULD YOU TELL US WHAT YOU THINK?
C...

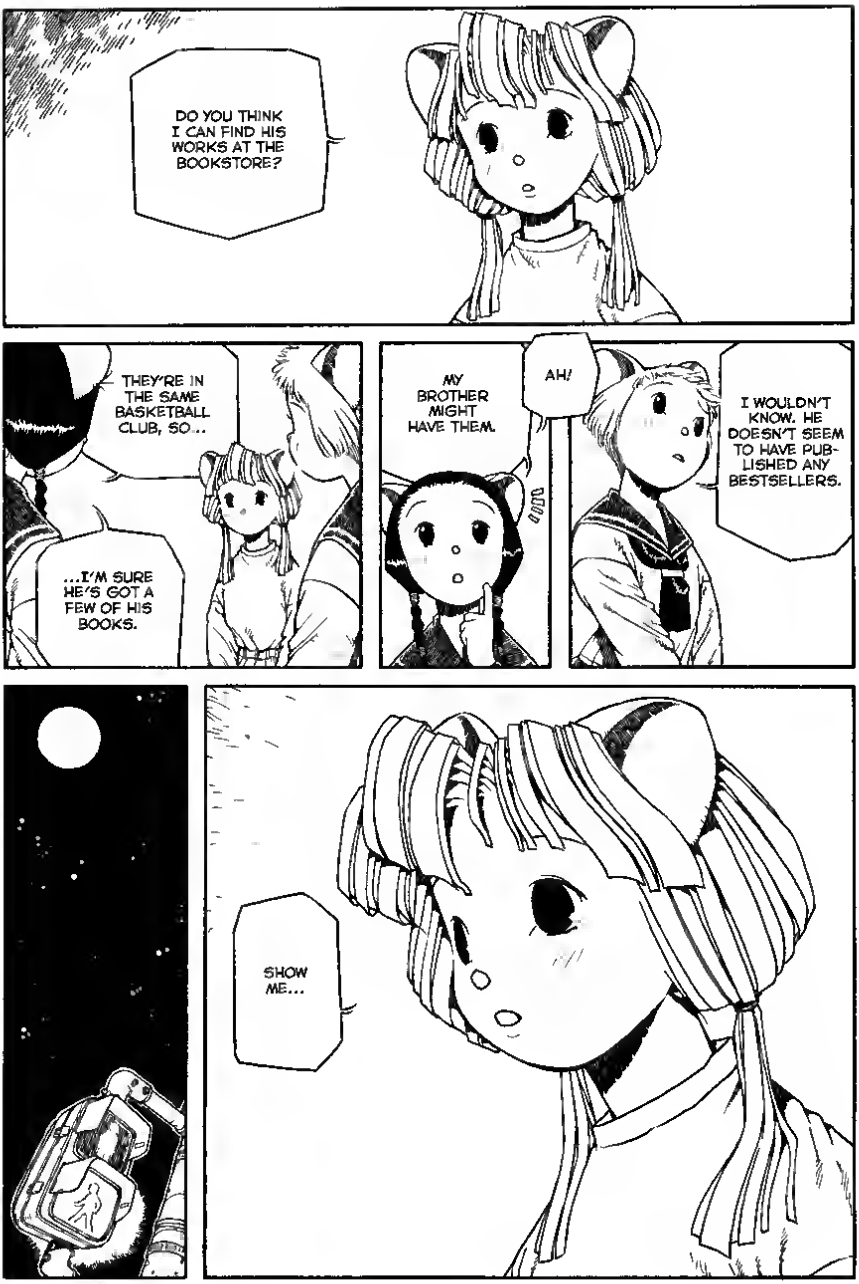
IF... YOU DON'T LIKE THIS WORK, SHE... HAS MANY OTHERS...
DO YOU THINK SHE COULD DEBUT?
THAT'S YOUR NAME, RIGHT?
NEMU...
YES ..

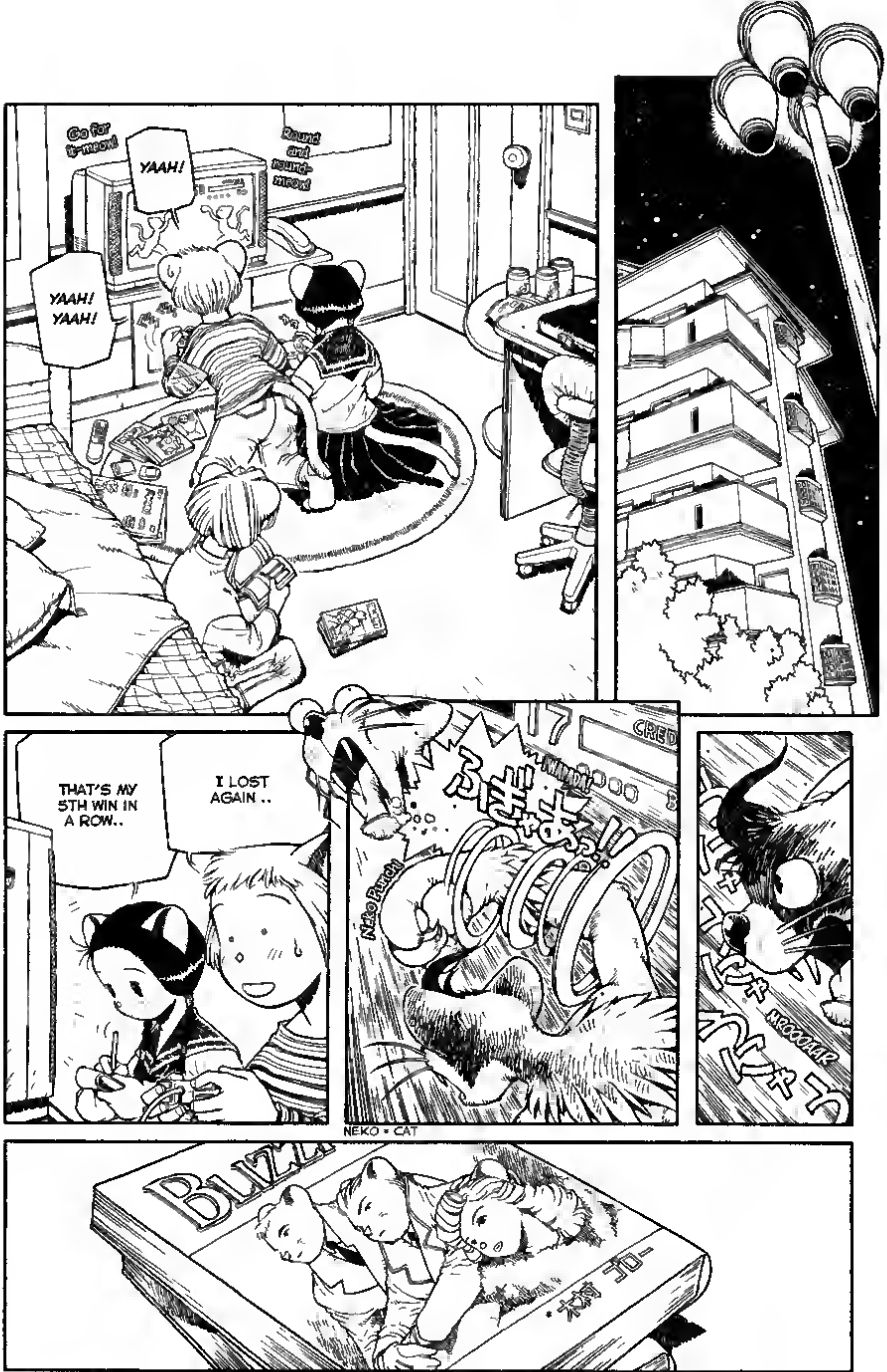
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A MANGAKA?
HUH ..?
...
IS IT HOPE-LESS?
WAS IT GOOD? OR ..
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT...
BE QUIET!
I...
Tama-san!
Ryoko-san!

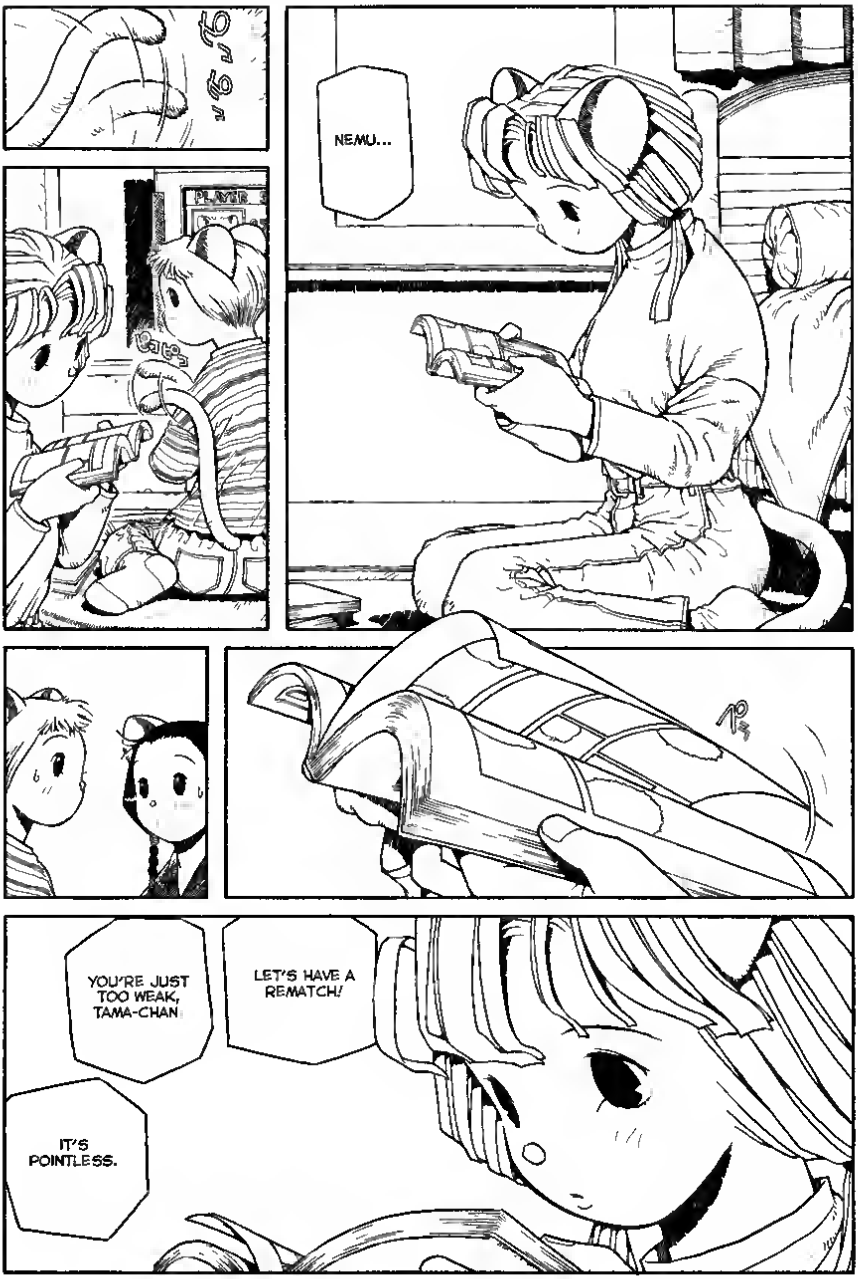
DO YOU WANT TO BECOME THE MAIN CHARACTER IN SOME "FANTASY WORLD..."
...BECAUSE YOU DON'T GET ALONG WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU OR THE REST OF THE WORLD?
OR IS IT SO YOU CAN MAKE MILLIONS OF YEN?
MAYBE YOU WANT TO BE THE STAR AT SOME PUBLISHING COMPANY PARTY?
Yeah!
GORO-SAN...
I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...

Huh?
Huh?
Huh?
Huh?
Thank you very much!

HIS ATTITUDE IS JUST ALL TWISTED ...
... BECAUSE HIS WORKS DON'T SELL!
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?! I DON'T GET IT AT ALL! HE REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
TAMA-CHAN...


DO YOU THINK I CAN FIND HIS WORKS AT THE BOOKSTORE?
THEY'RE IN THE SAME BASKETBALL CLUB, SO...
...I'M SURE HE'S GOT A FEW OF HIS BOOKS.
MY BROTHER MIGHT HAVE THEM.
AH!
I WOULDN'T KNOW. HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE PUBLISHED ANY BESTSELLERS.
SHOW ME...


Go for it-NYON!
YAAH!
Round and round-NYON!
YAAH! YAAH!
THAT'S MY 5TH WIN IN A ROW..
I LOST AGAIN ..
Niko Punch!
MRROWAR
NEKO • CAT
BUZZA
• GORO KIMURA


NEMU...
YOU'RE JUST TOO WEAK, TAMA-CHAN.
LET'S HAVE A REMATCH!
IT'S POINTLESS.

NEMU...
THAT'S YOUR NAME, RIGHT?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A MANGAKA?

Vol. 4:
What the Full Moon Brings

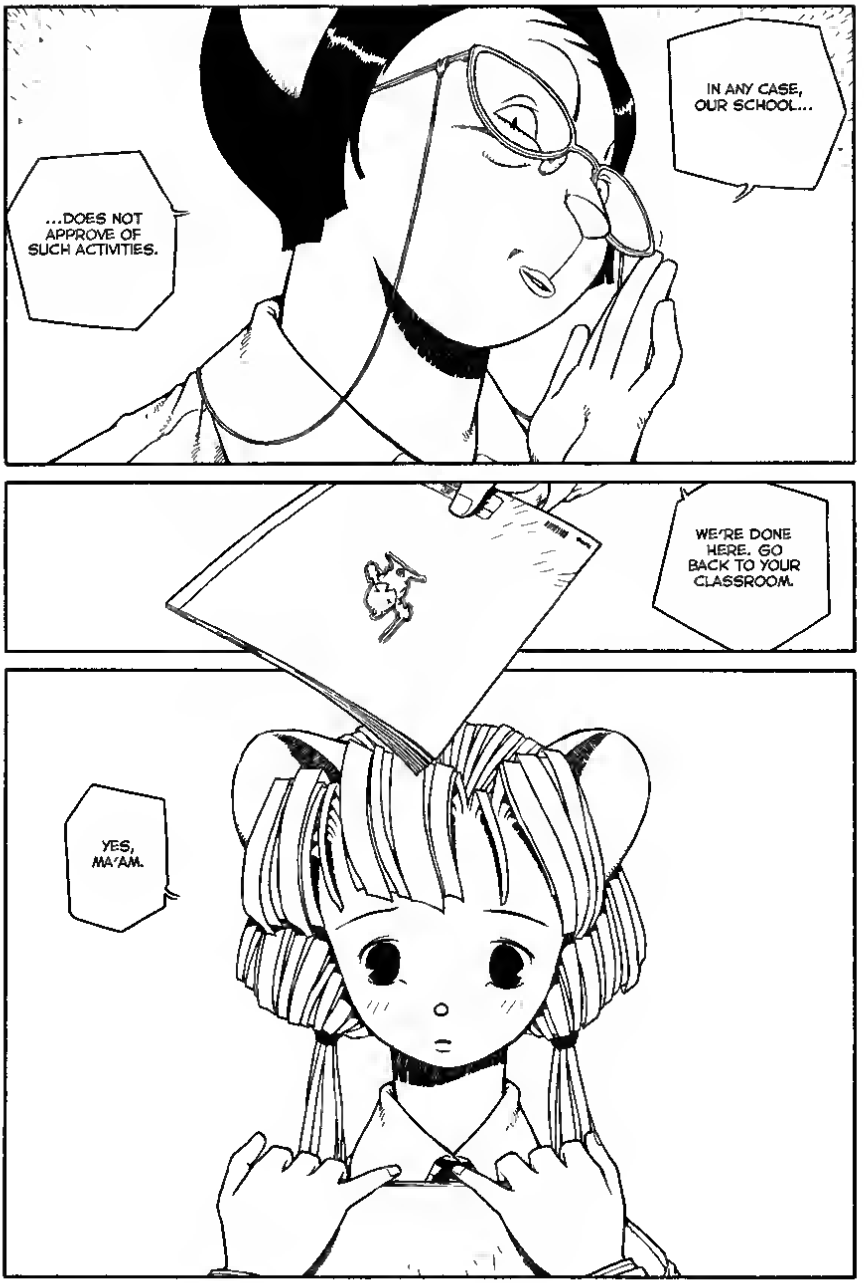
WELL THEN, AT THAT TIME, WHAT KIND OF FEELINGS DID THE GIRL HAVE TOWARDS THE YOUTH?
SHE WAS RACKED WITH MENTAL INSTABILITY AND YET...
...IN THE END, WERE THE WORDS SHE TOLD THE YOUTH... HOW SHE REALLY FELT?
GORO KIMURA ...
IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT THE AUTHOR WAS TRYING TO SAY WITH THIS WORK...

AH!
...
WHAT IS THIS?
COME TO THE FACULTY ROOM AFTER CLASS!

!?!-!
REALLY, DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS DURING THE CLASS...
A FEW YEARS AGO...
...

IN THE END...
THE ISSUE WAS PUT UP TO A VOTE FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL.
...THERE WERE SOME STUDENTS WHO TRIED TO ESTABLISH A MANGA CLUB. THEY WERE MET WITH OPPOSITION FROM ANOTHER GROUP WITHIN THE SCHOOL: THE WHITE LILY GROUP. DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?
"IT'S NOT FITTING OF THE SCHOOL'S TRADITION," THAT WAS THE OPINION THAT ENDED UP WINNING.
...
AND SO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MANGA CLUB WAS CANCELED.
Come to the faculty room. I'll be waiting.
Oh
ho
ho
ho
ho

READING AND DRAWING THINGS LIKE THAT IN YOUR OWN PRIVATE TIME...
BUT I'M REALLY NOT *THAT* HARD-HEADED ABOUT IT.
YOU CAN'T PROHIBIT THAT USING SCHOOL REGULATIONS. BUT...
THE PRINCIPAL WAS QUITE PLEASED. "THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES HAVE REJECTED MANGA..."
..HE SAID.


IN ANY CASE, OUR SCHOOL...
...DOES NOT APPROVE OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.
WE'RE DONE HERE. GO BACK TO YOUR CLASSROOM.
YES, MA'AM.

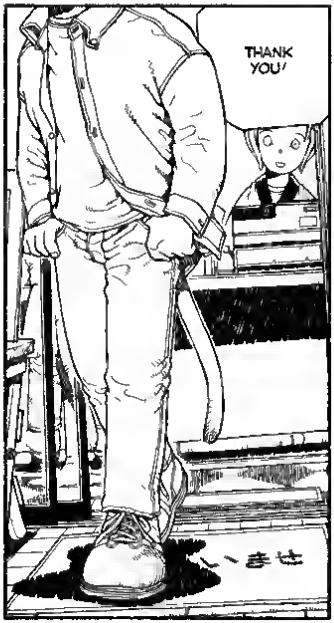
AH, NEMU!
DID SHE SAY SOMETHING TO YOU?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH.
SHE SHOULD JUST GO SLIP ON A BANANA PEEL OR SOMETHING!
SHE IS GOING THROUGH MENOPAUSE, RIGHT?
STOP IT!
HEY, WHAT DID SHE DO HERE?
GOOD FOR HER! IT'D BE NICE TO NOT HAVE TO DEAL WITH PERIODS.

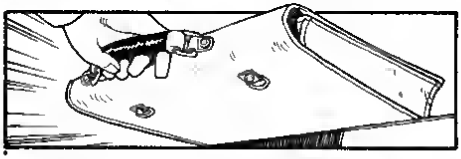
WHAAAAT ?!
SHE TORE UP HER NOTEBOOK!
UNBELIEVABLE! WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?!
HOW MEAN!
IS SHE ACTUALLY TIMID, OR REALLY FEARLESS?
WELL, SHE DEFINITELY HAS A FEW QUIRKS...
HEY NEMU, ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS?!
YUP.
...

ONE MISO RAMEN, COMING UP.
AH, WELCOME BACK, NEMU-CHAN.

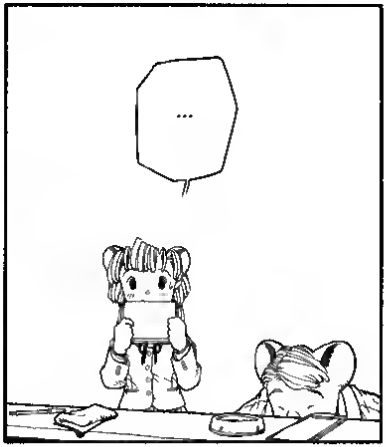
* RAMEN WITH GREEN ONIONS AND ROAST PORK

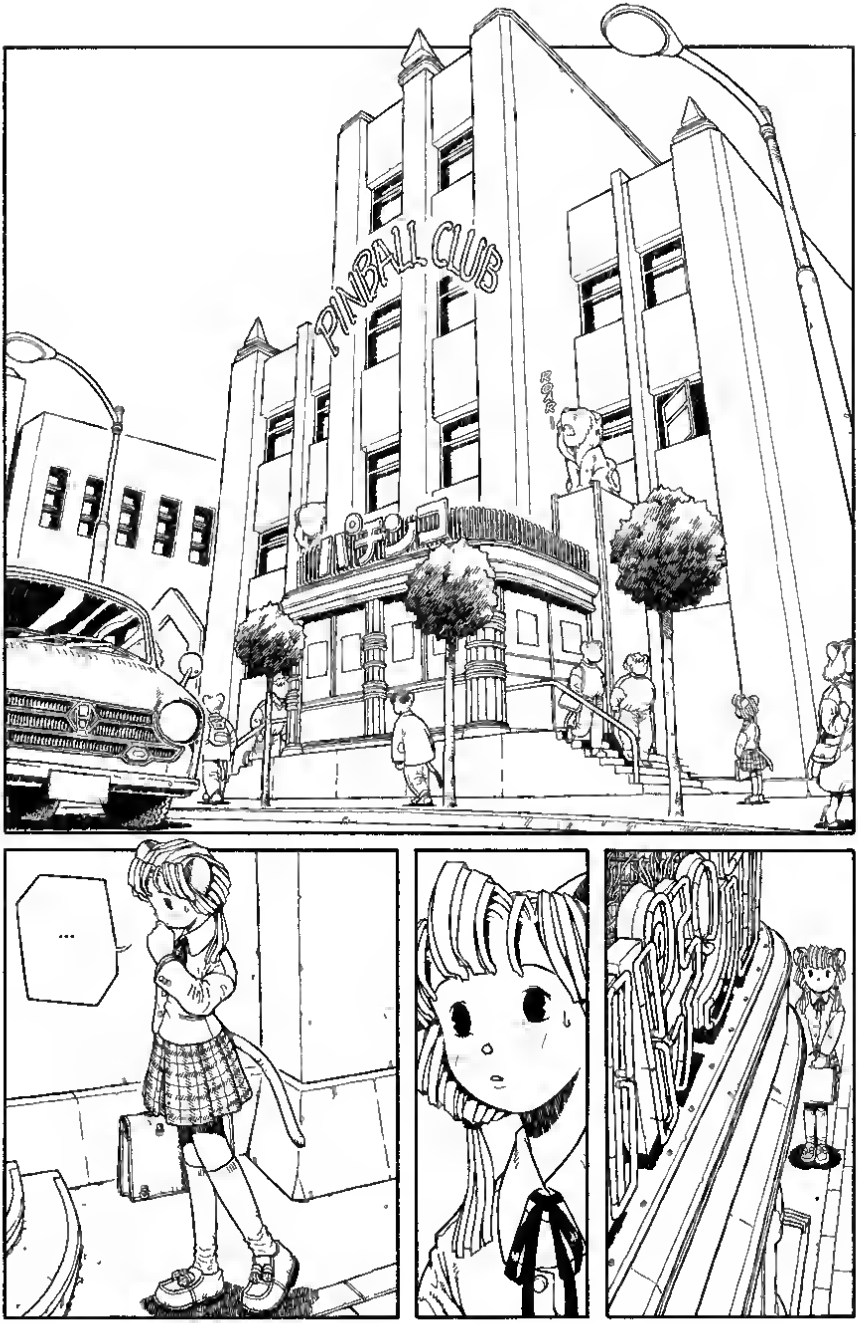
* COMPLETE MISO MENU

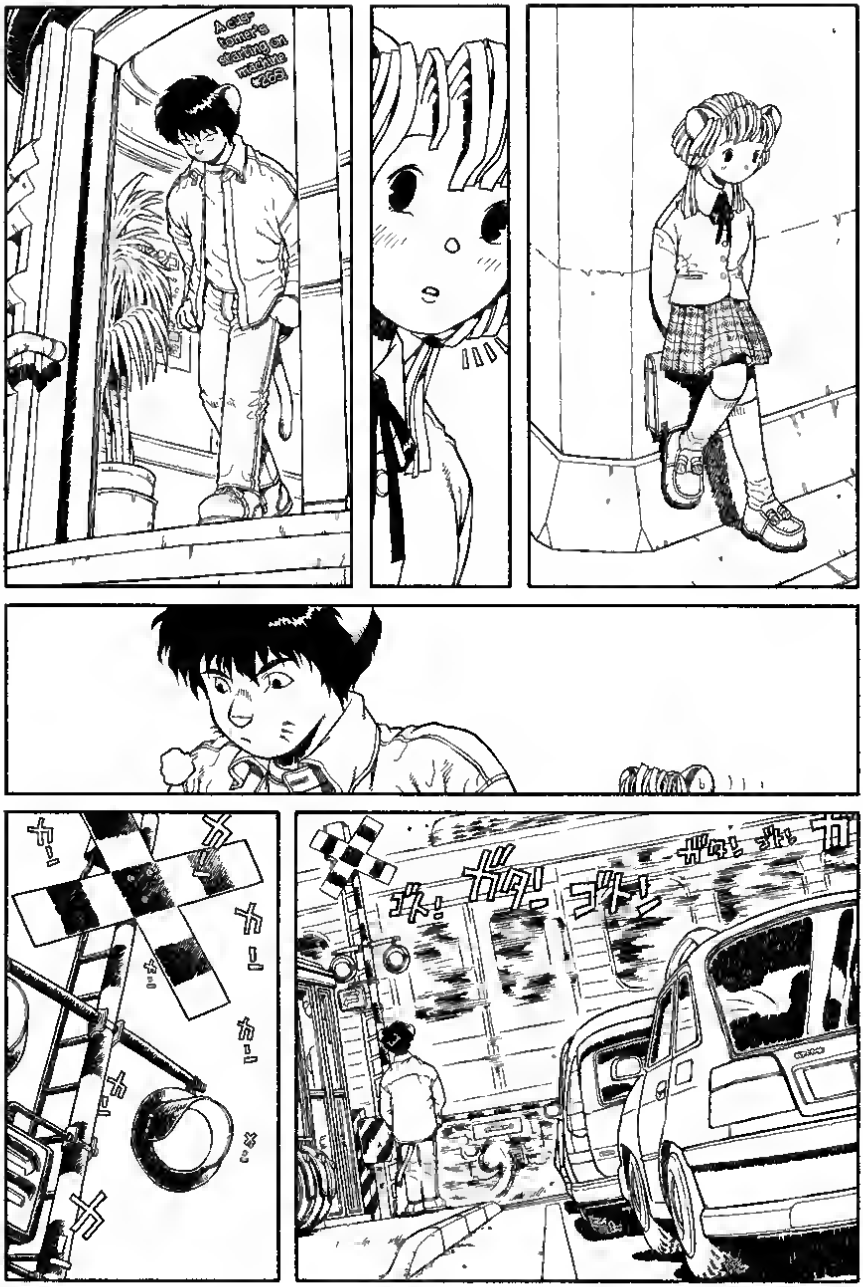




* NOODLES TOPPED WITH SLICES OF ROAST PORK




PINBALL CLUB
…


A cop-tower's standing on machine #653

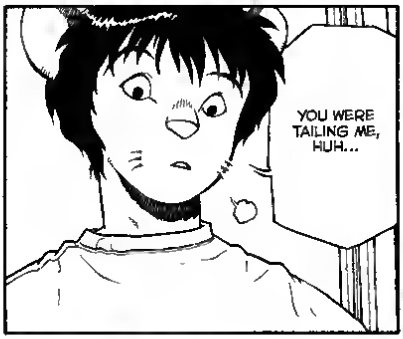
Bamboo! Bamboo poles! One for 500 yen! One for 500 yen!
Our biggest sale in 20 years!
Come take a look!

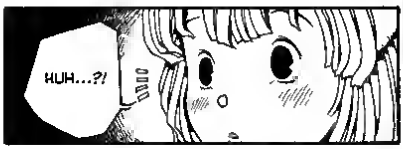
• "LITTLE MISS OTEMO"

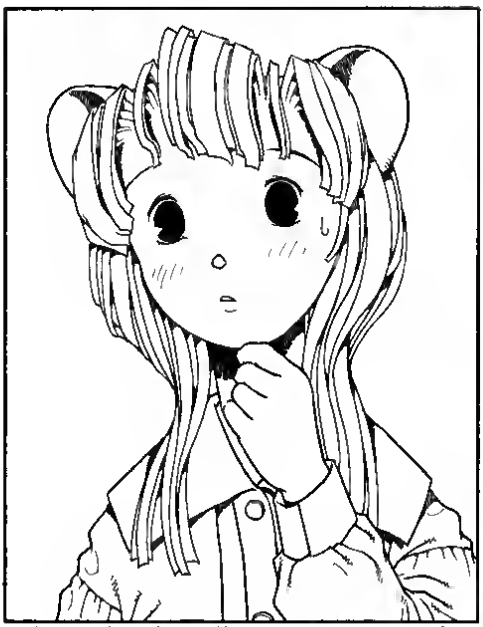
AHH, WHAT A REFRESHING BATH
A BEER! A BEER!
IT'D BE NICE IF WE WERE THAT BUSY EVERYDAY, THOUGH
WE HAD A REALLY BUSY DAY...

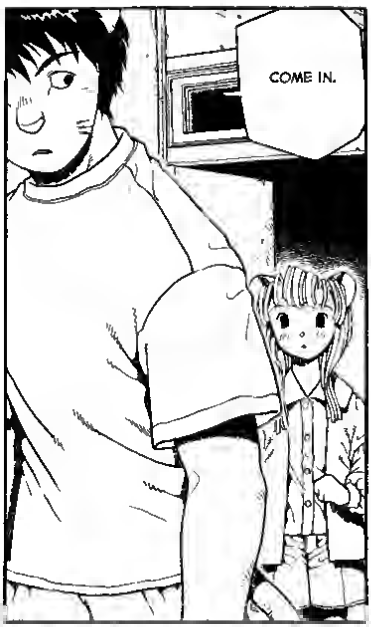
BEER
Ah ma am
Ah wa cant I have a husband

KNOCK
...
MHHH..



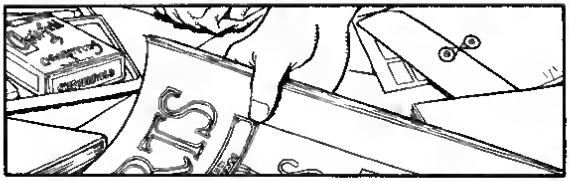


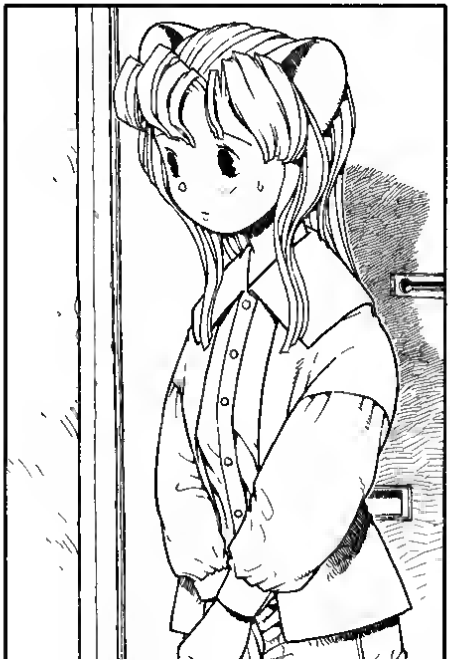




Vol. 4: What the Full Moon Brings • End

Vol. 5: A Special Night





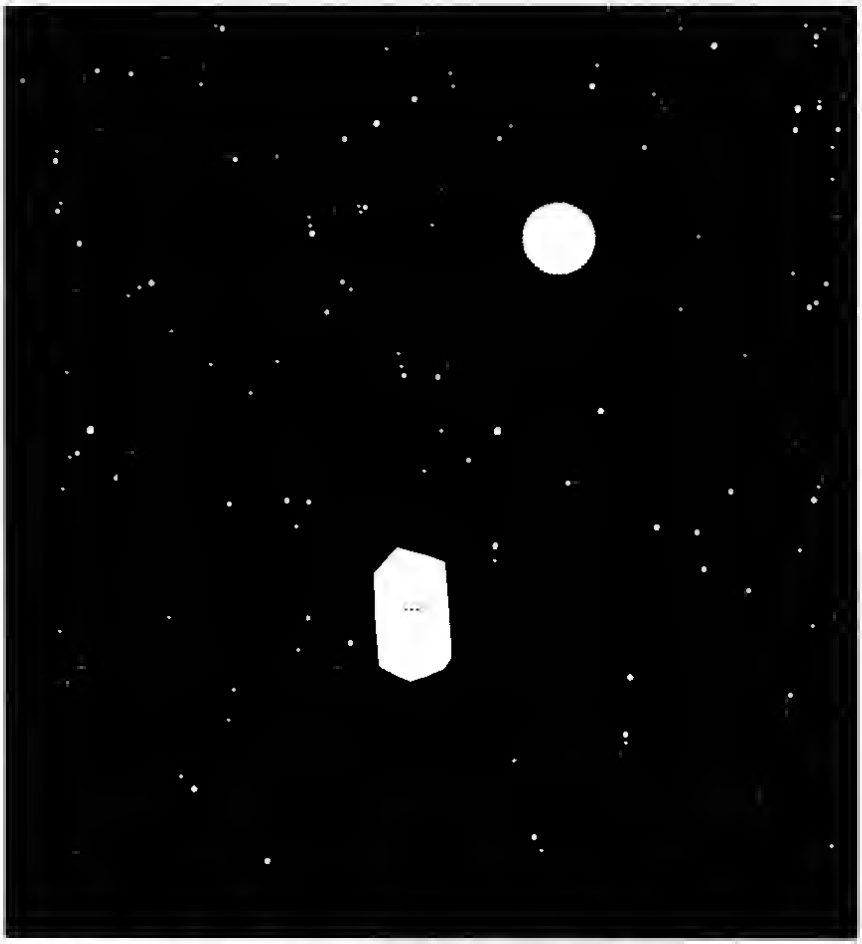
Vol. 5: A Special Night

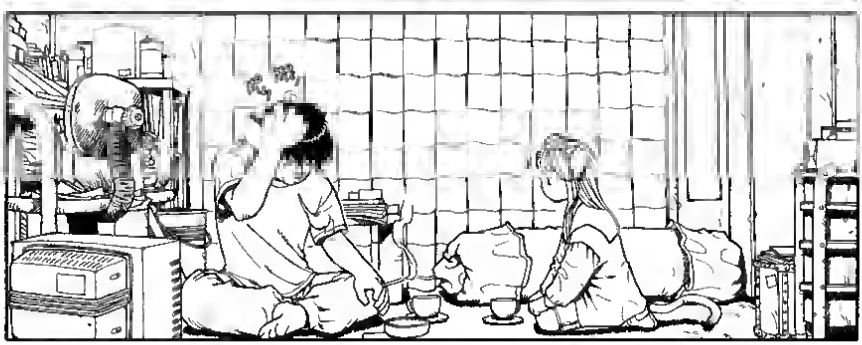
YOU CAME INTO A MAN'S ROOM IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.
EVEN IF YOU GET RAPED, YOU'VE GOT NO ROOM TO COMPLAIN.

...YOU DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING
Hiccup
AT THE CAFÉ...
UH... I MEAN, YOUR WORK?
ABOUT YOUR DRAWI--
GO AHEAD, DRINK UP.

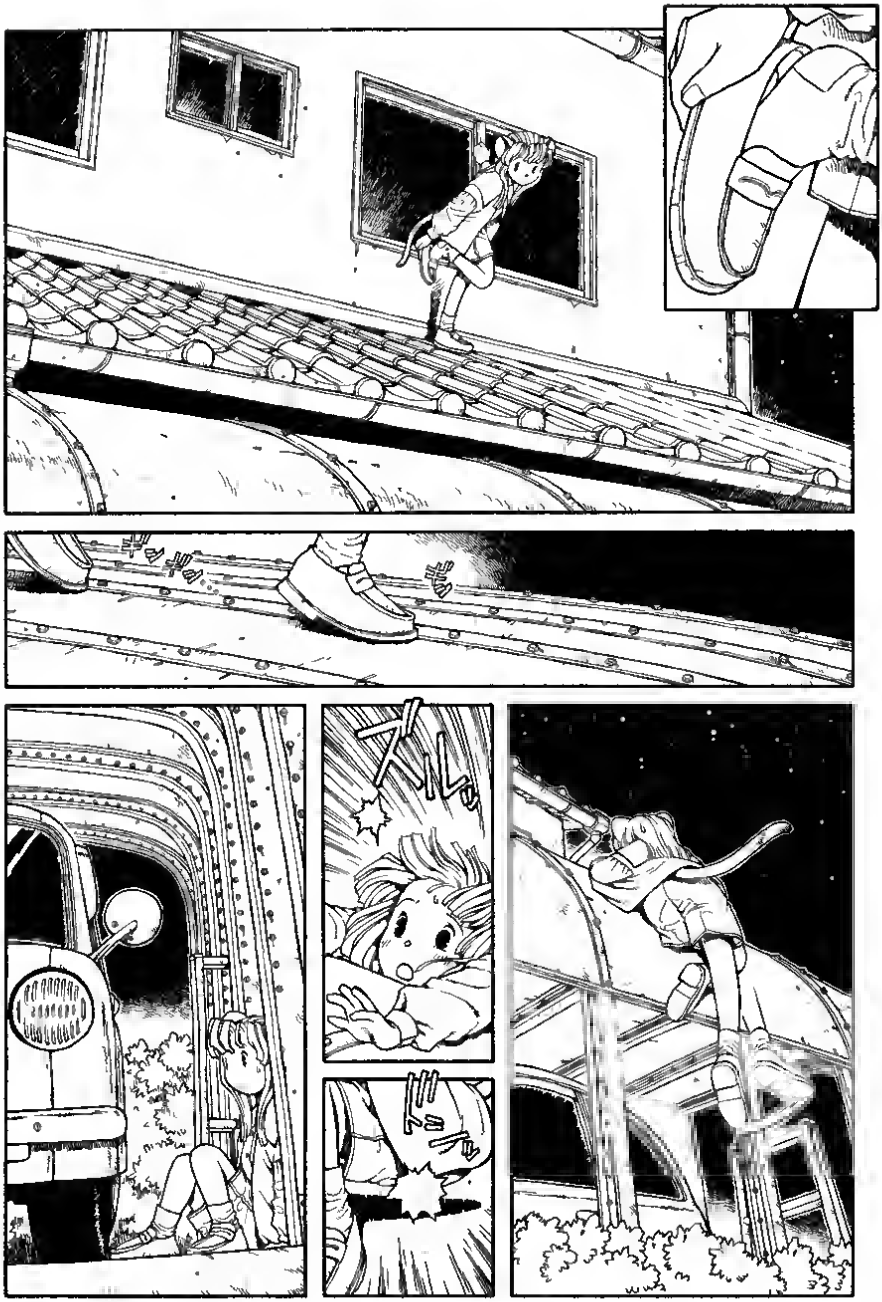
IN OTHER WORDS...
YOU WANT TO BE PRAISED, IS THAT IT?
EVERYONE WHO DRAWS MANGA IS THE SAME.
IF THEY'RE PRAISED THEY'RE HAPPY, IF THEY GET CRITICIZED THEY GET PISSED.
HUH...?

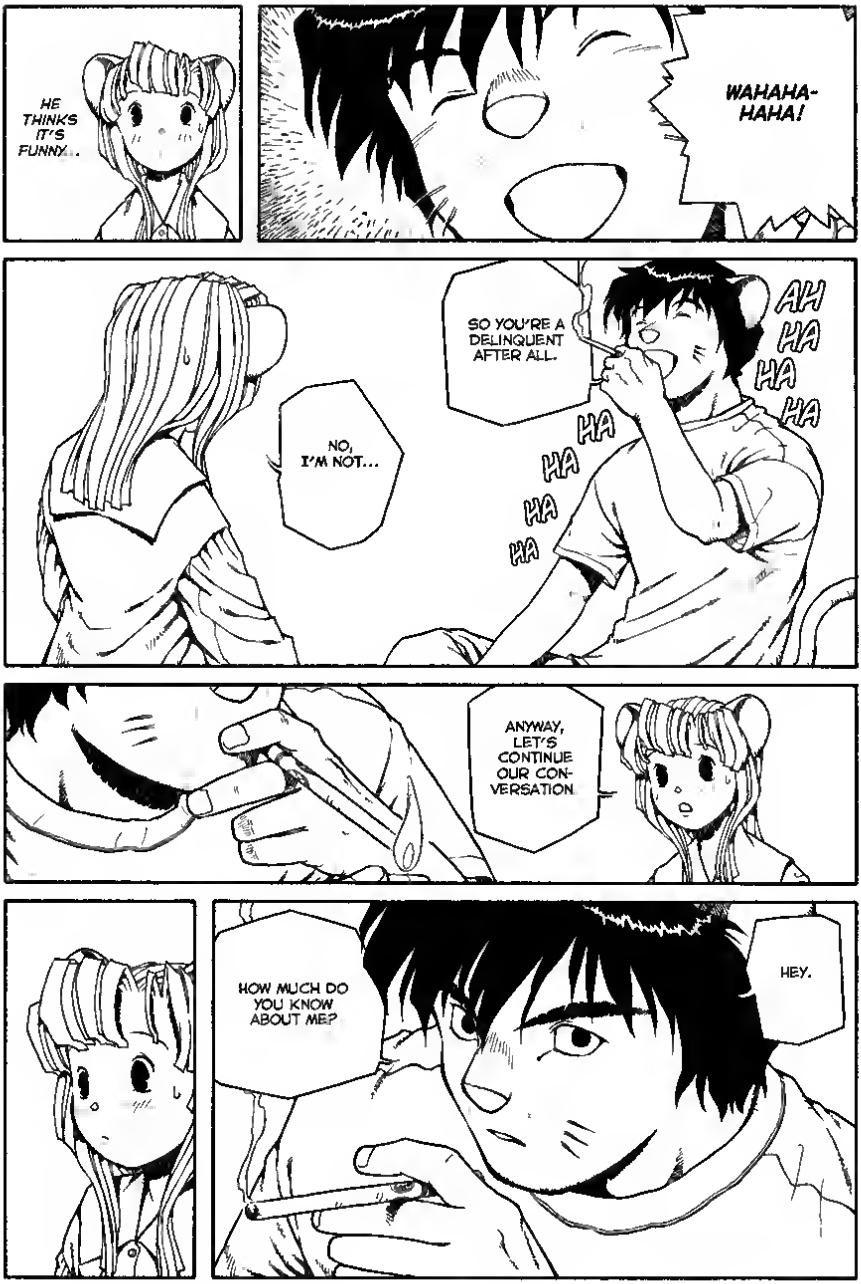
IT'S THE ARROGANT PEOPLE WHO DON'T CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS WHO ARE DETERMINED TO BECOME "MANGAKA." I USED TO BE LIKE THAT TOO.
IN REALITY, THOSE ARE THE ONLY TYPE OF PEOPLE THAT PASS FOR PROFESSIONALS.
I...
I...
I KNOW ...
I DIDN'T SHOW YOU MY MANU-SCRIPT JUST TO BE PRAISED!





HUH ...?
ARE YOU... A DELINQUENT OR SOME-THING?
...WERE DELINQUENTS WHOSE PARENTS HAD EVEN GIVEN UP ON THEM.
I WAS JUST THINKING THAT THE ONLY ONES THAT WERE OUT ON THEIR OWN WILL THIS LATE..
I SNUCK OUT THE WINDOW OF MY ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR..
THEY DON'T KNOW I'M HERE...


ズルッ
ドンッ


HE THINKS IT'S FUNNY...
WAHAHA-HAHA!
SO YOU'RE A DELINQUENT AFTER ALL.
NO, I'M NOT...
AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
ANYWAY, LET'S CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION.
HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
HEY.

A PROFESSIONAL MANGAKA WHO'S COME OUT WITH QUITE A FEW BOOKS.
GORO KIMURA-... SAN, GOES BY THE SAME PEN NAME.
UM...
YOU WERE WORKING IN TOKYO FOR A WHILE, BUT...
...YOU CAME BACK HERE RECENTLY.
WELL...
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD... FROM MY COUSIN TAMA.

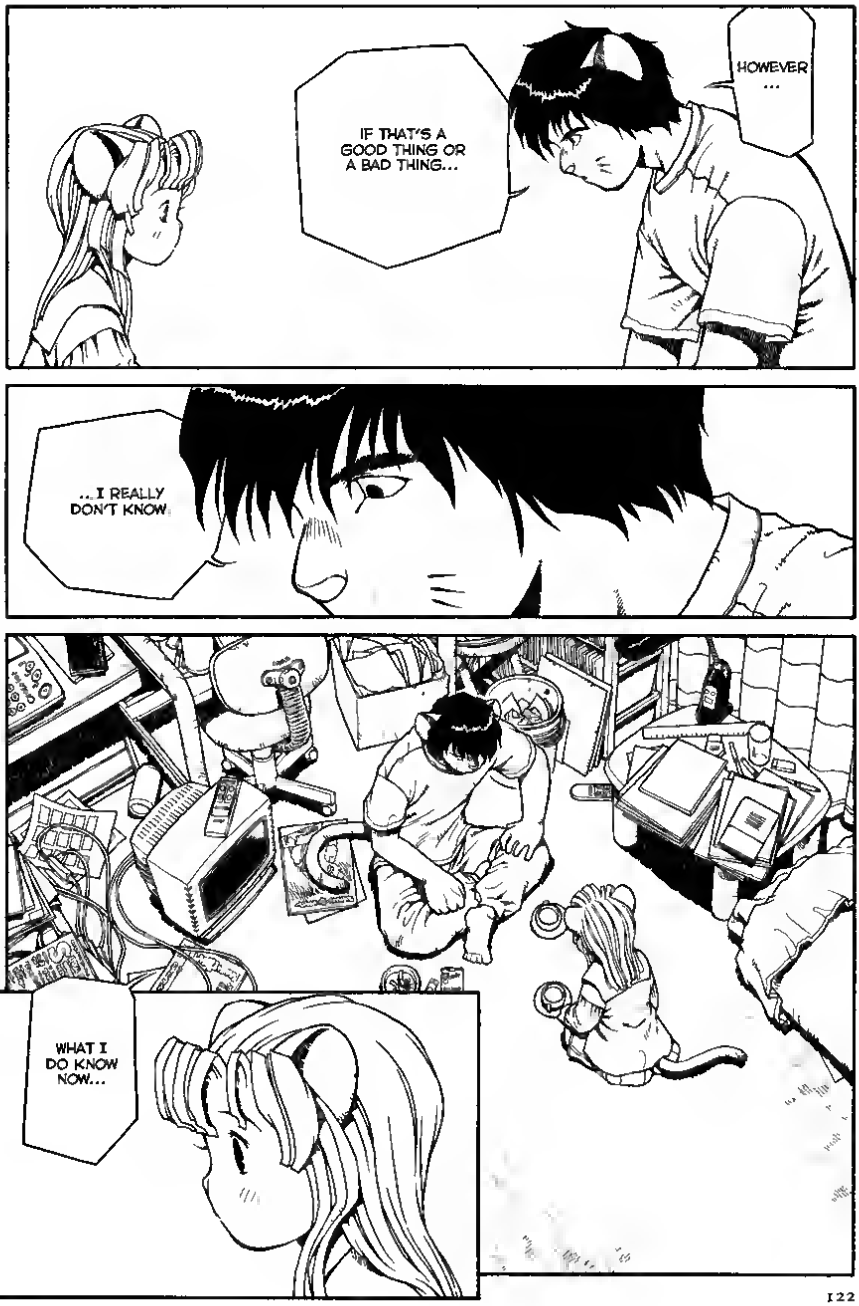
HE'S ANGRY..
THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP.

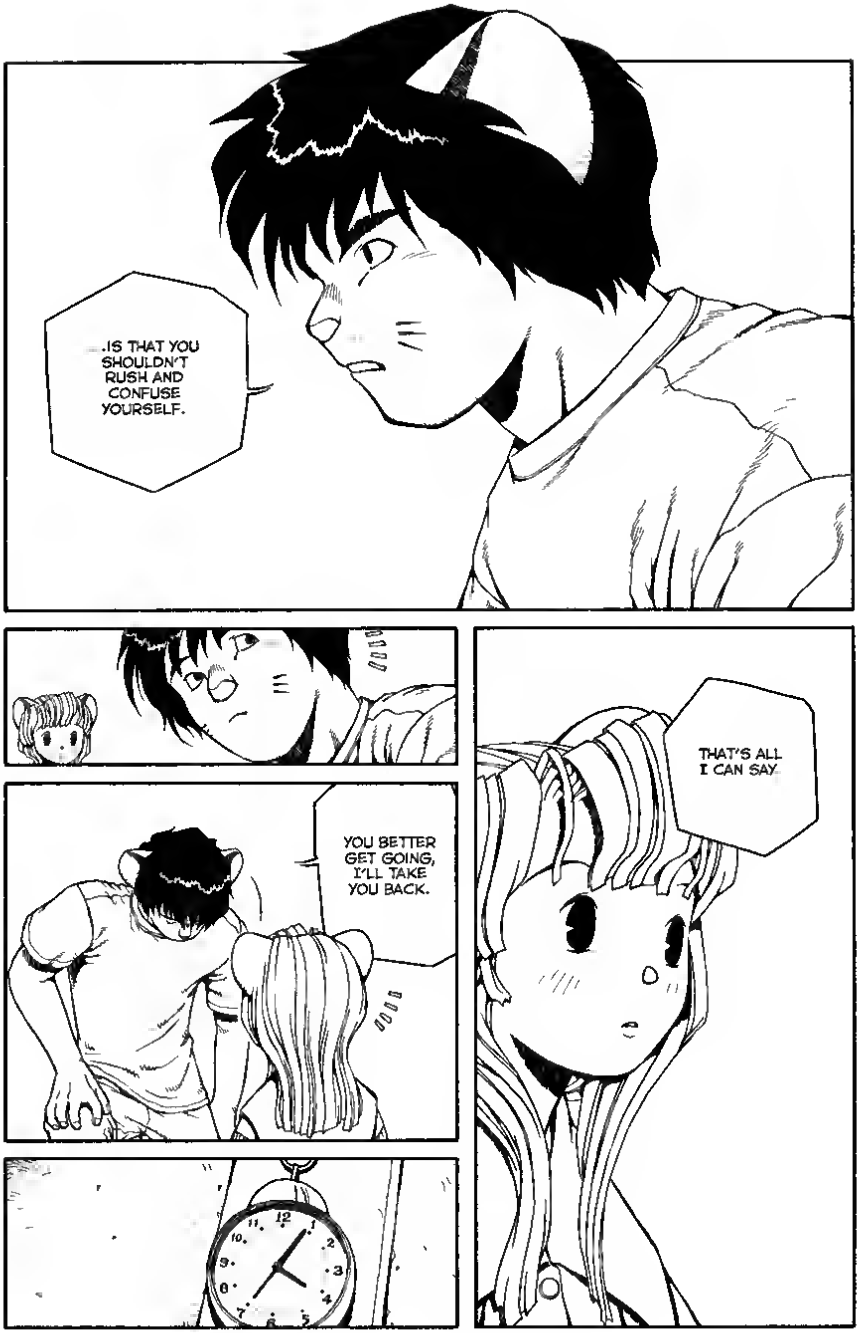
BACK IN TOKYO...
I WAS DRINKING BEER LIKE IT WAS WATER...
I WAS ALWAYS GETTING IN FIGHTS...
AND HITTING ON WOMEN

ONE DAY I JUST GOT SICK OF THAT LIFE...
...AND CAME BACK TO MY HOME TOWN...

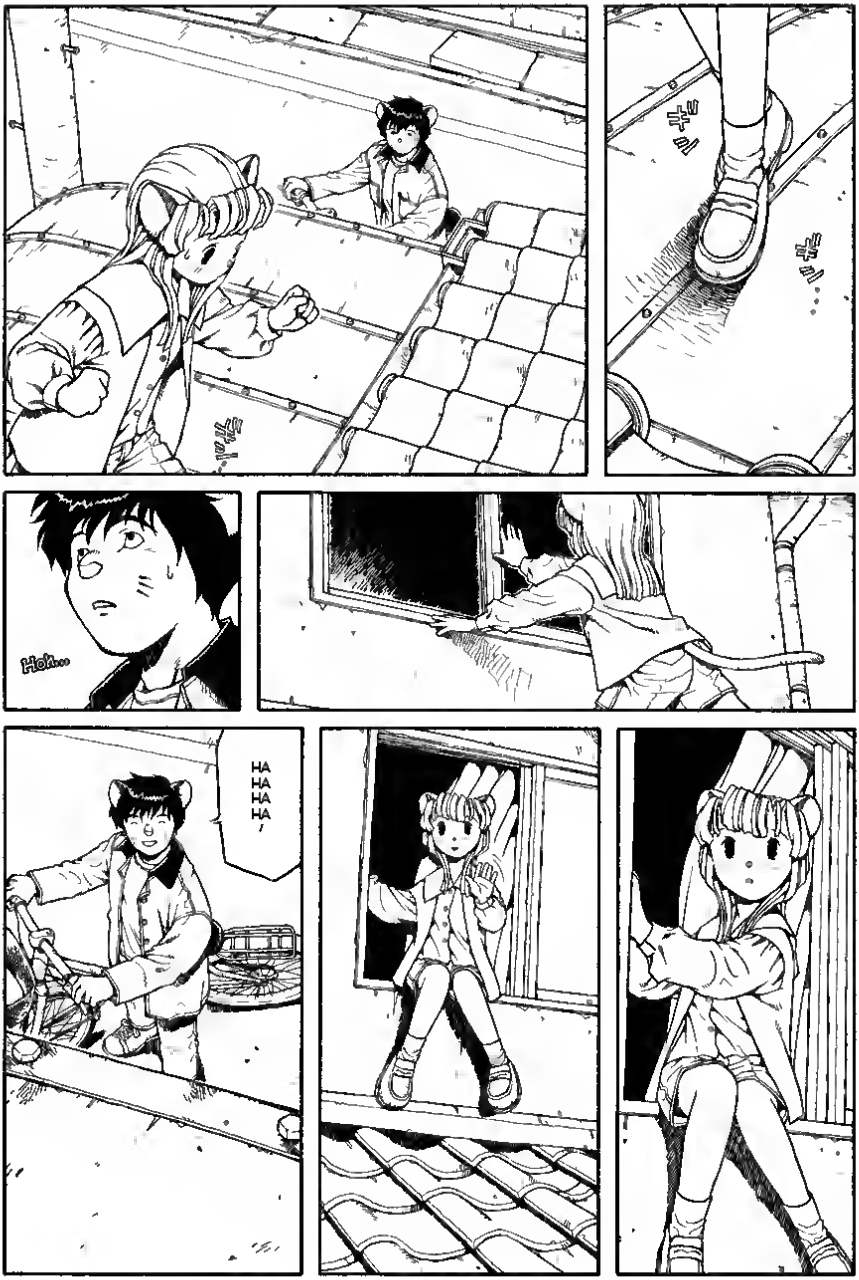
DON'T WORRY.
I DON'T DRINK AS MUCH AS I USED TO NOW.
GORO-SAN
...
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?
MY MANU-SCRIPT...
BUT IT'S HARD FOR ME TO HOLD A CONVER-SATION...
I MEAN, I'M JUST DRINKING BECAUSE IT'S SORT OF EMBARRASSING.

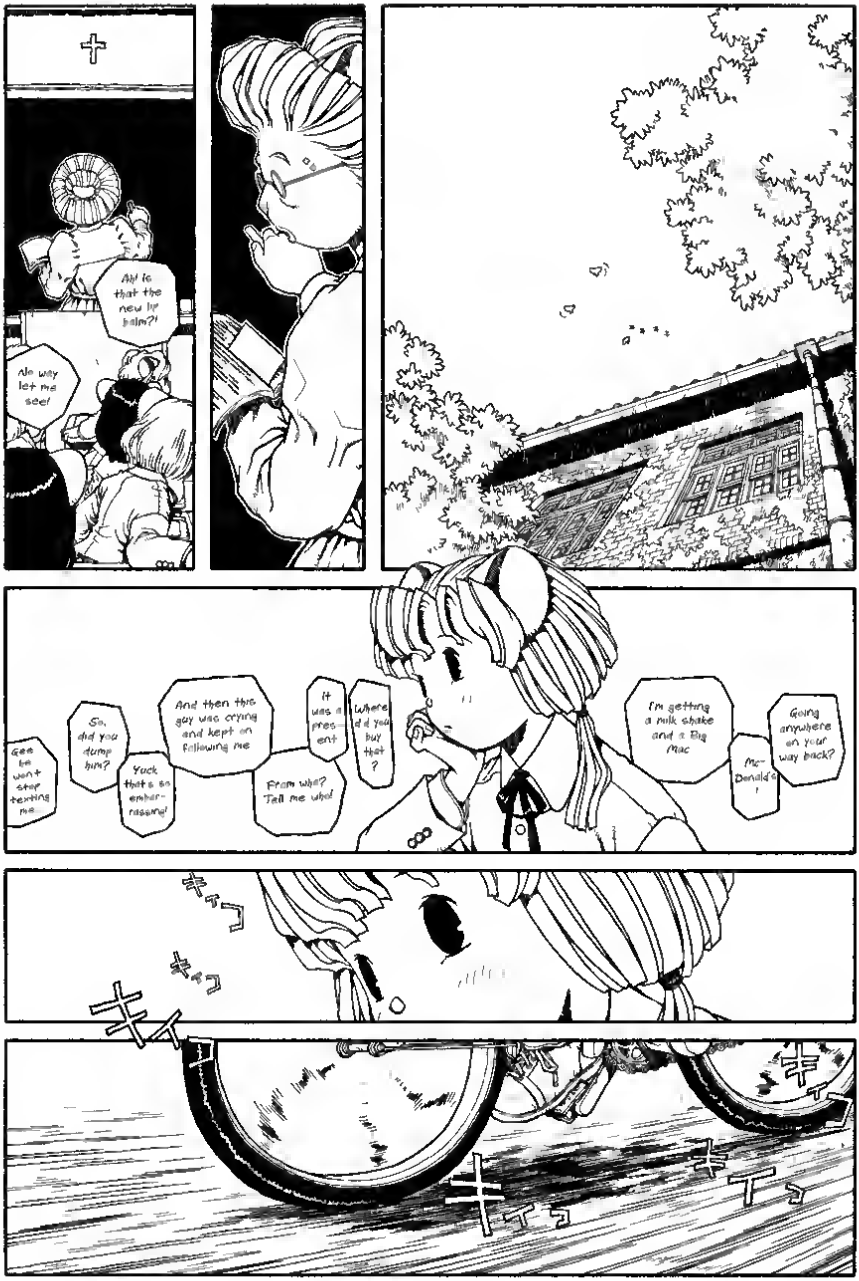
ぎゅ…
…
YOU WANT ME TO COMMENT ON IT?
I'M PRETTY SURE YOU COULD BECOME A POPULAR MANGAKA.

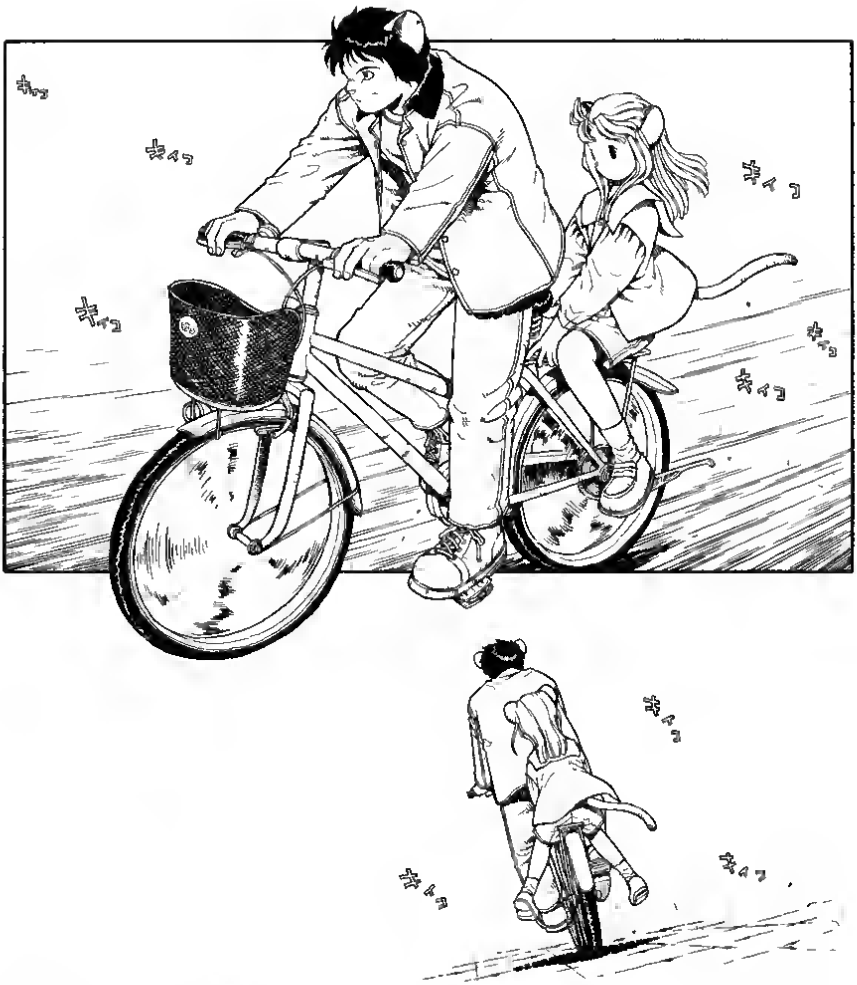

HOWEVER ...
IF THAT'S A GOOD THING OR A BAD THING...
...I REALLY DON'T KNOW.
WHAT I DO KNOW NOW...

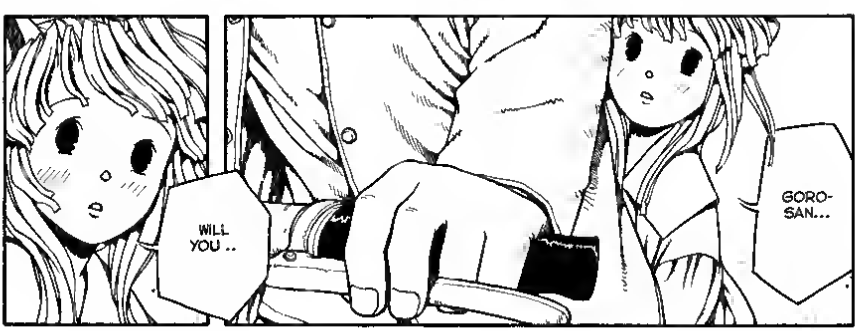

...IS THAT YOU
SHOULDN'T
RUSH AND
CONFUSE
YOURSELF.
YOU BETTER
GET GOING,
I'LL TAKE
YOU BACK.
THAT'S ALL
I CAN SAY.

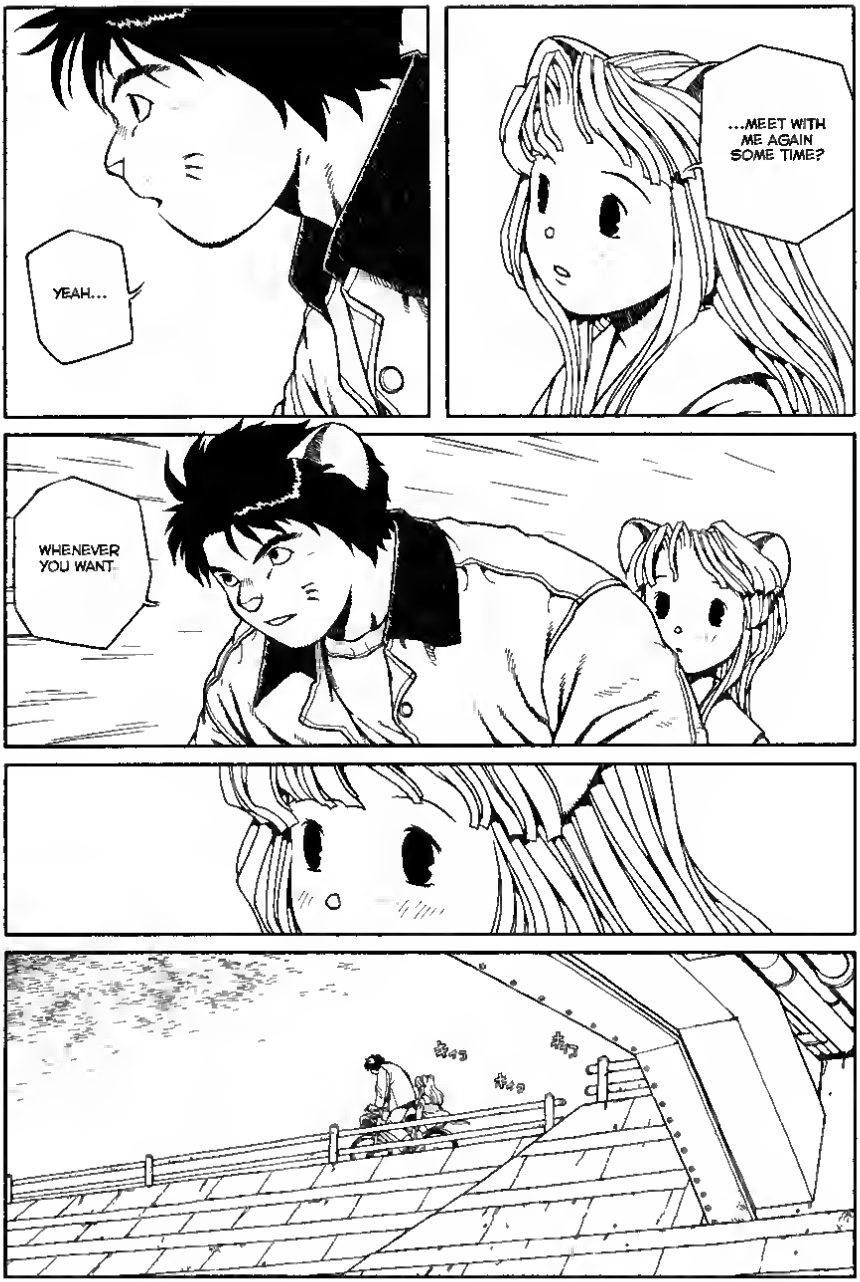
DON'T
FALL
DOWN


Hoki...
HA HA HA HA!


Ah! Is that the new lip balm?!
Ah way let me see!
Going anywhere on your way back?
I'm getting a milk shake and a Big Mac
Mc-Donald's!
Where'd you buy that?
It was a present
From who? Tell me who!
And then this guy was crying and kept on following me
So, did you dump him?
Yuck. That's so embarrassing!
Gee he won't stop texting me.
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ

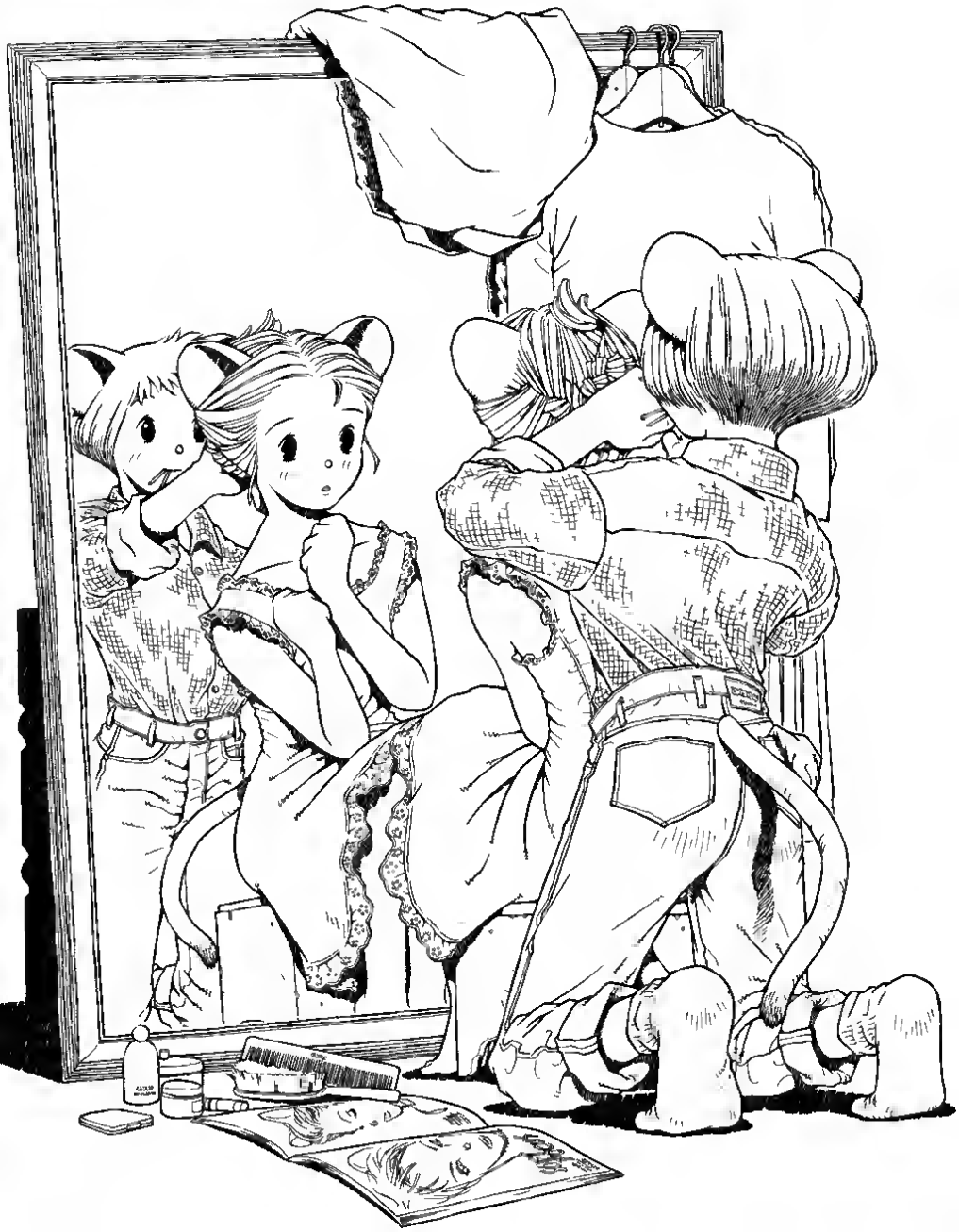

キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ
キィコ


WILL YOU ..
GORO-SAN...

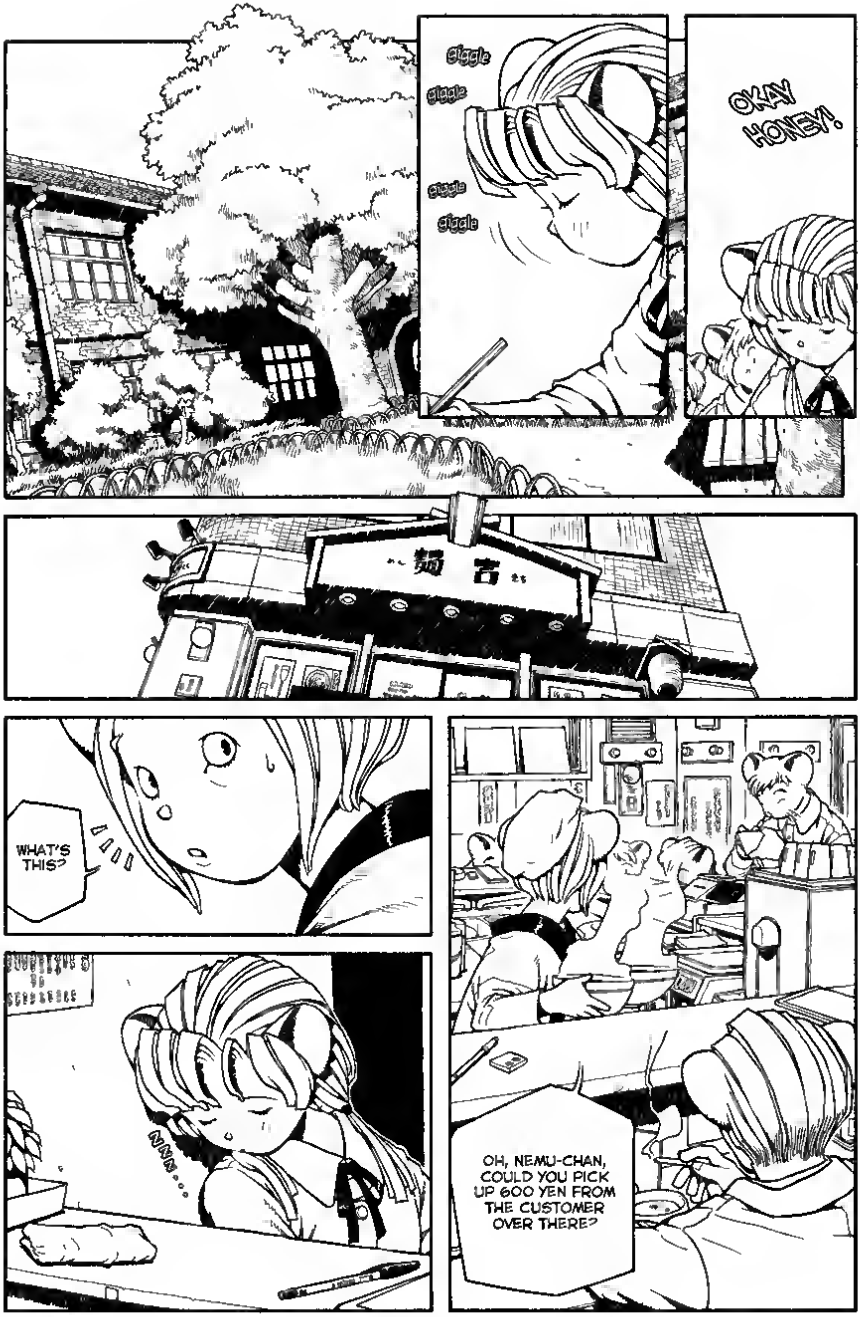


Vol. 5: A Special Night • End

Vol. 6: A Little Resolution

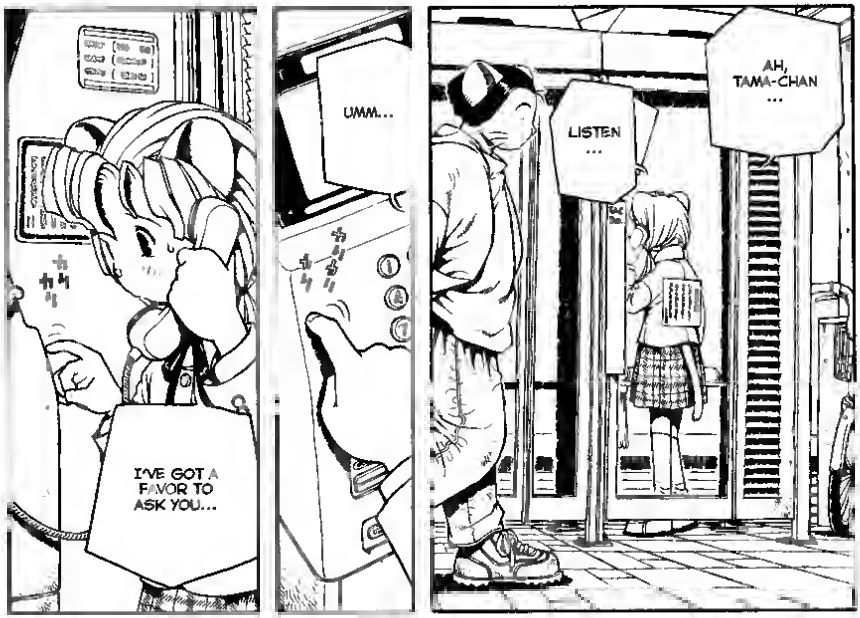


NEMU!
Ah!
YOU OVER THERE ...
BE QUIET!
giggle
giggle
giggle
giggle
giggle
MORNIN'.


giggle
giggle
giggle
giggle
OKAY HONEY!
WHAT'S THIS?
MMM...
OH, NEMU-CHAN, COULD YOU PICK UP 600 YEN FROM THE CUSTOMER OVER THERE?

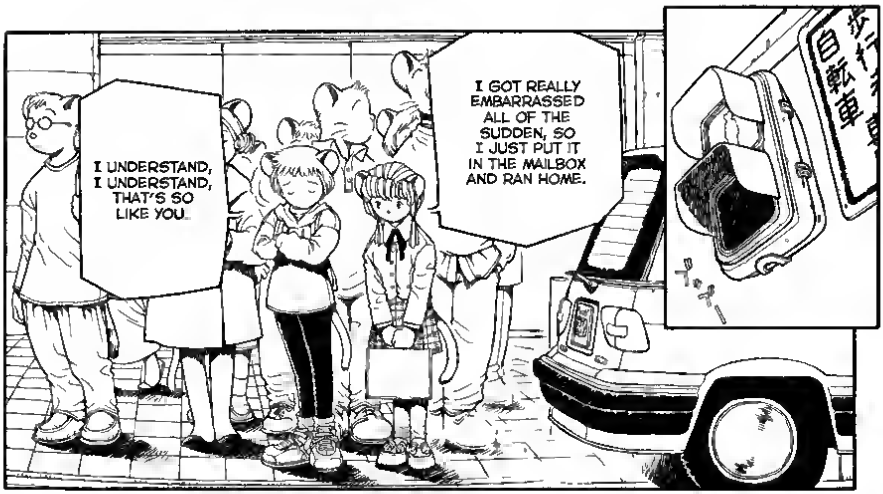
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
ARE YOU NOT FEELING TOO GOOD?
I'M SO SORRY. UM, LET'S SEE . . .
NO, I'M JUST A LITTLE SLEEPY...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT SHOPPING FOR TODAY, JUST GO HOME EARLY.
MMMM!

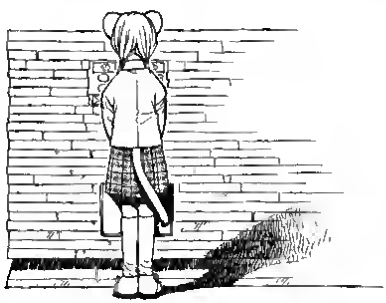
セブン

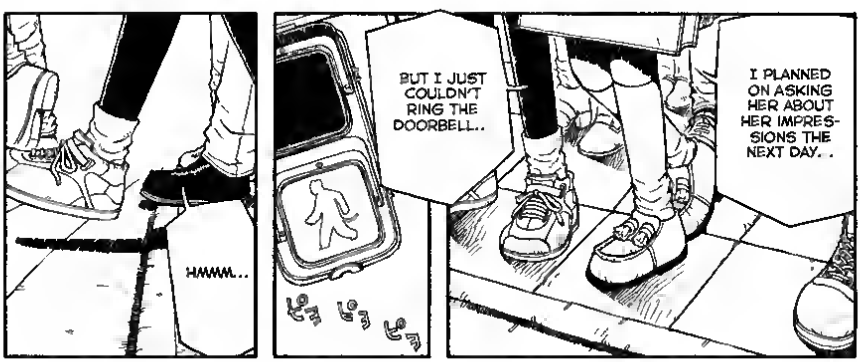

I'VE GOT A FAVOR TO ASK YOU...
UMM...
LISTEN ...
AH, TAMA-CHAN ...

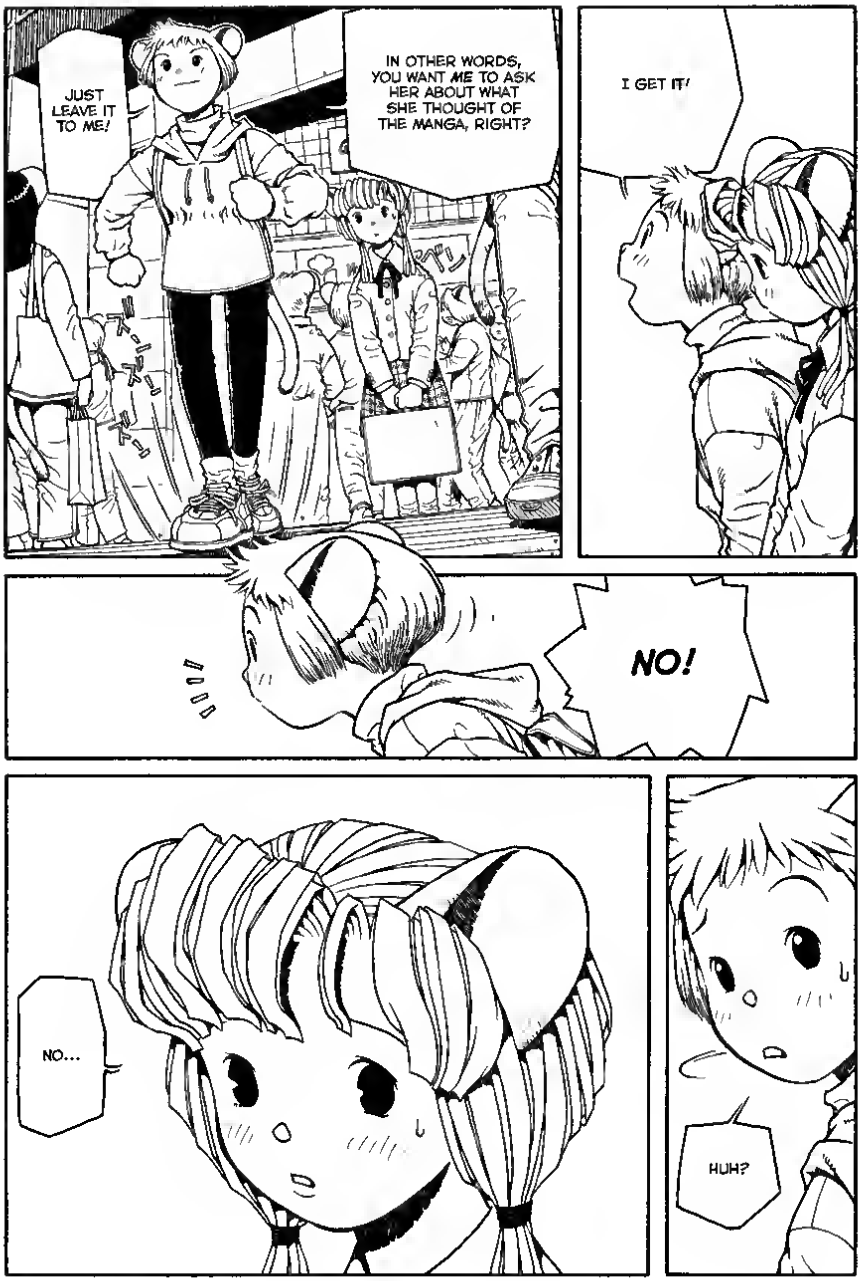
HEY!
NEMU!
Miaou
Miaou
Miaou
SORRY, TAMA-CHAN. I LIED TO YOU.
SO, WHAT'S THIS FAVOR?
WHAAAAT? WHAT IS IT?! SPIT IT OUT!
UM, WELL ...
YOU GOT A BOY-FRIEND OR SOME-THING?

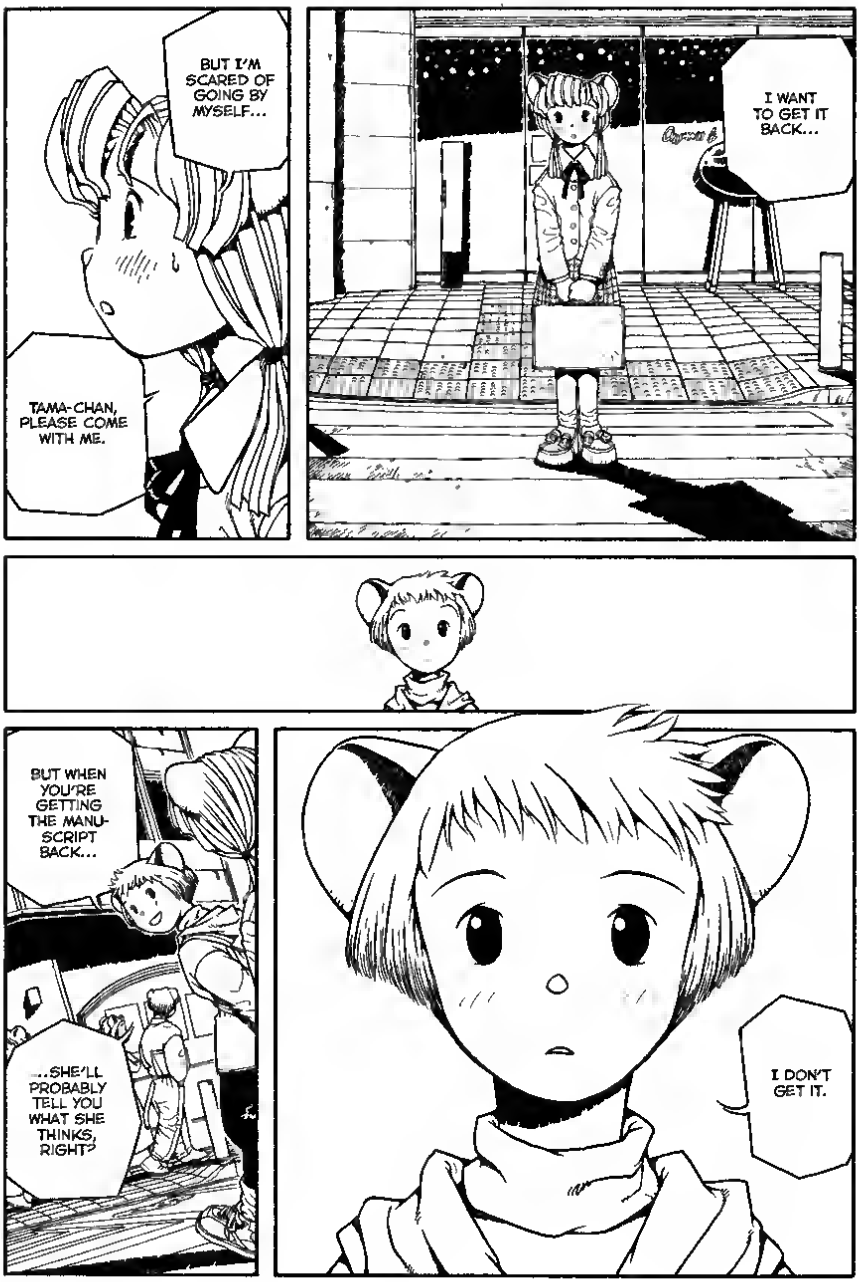
I DON'T KNOW 'BOUT NO TARO KIMURA...
...OR JIRO OR WHOEVER!
That's right, everywhere! I think about it now...
THAT TIME REALLY PISSED ME OFF!
...
TAMA-CHAN, YOU SAID THAT I SHOULD SHOW MY MANUSCRIPT TO REIKO ITOH-SENSEI, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT! AFTER ALL SHE'S SUCH A SUPER POPULAR SHOUJO MANGAKA AND SHE LIVES RIGHT HERE IN THIS CITY.
WELL, I...
I WENT OVER TO ITOH-SENSEI'S PLACE...
YOU DID IT!
T-TAMA-CHAN...
YIKES!

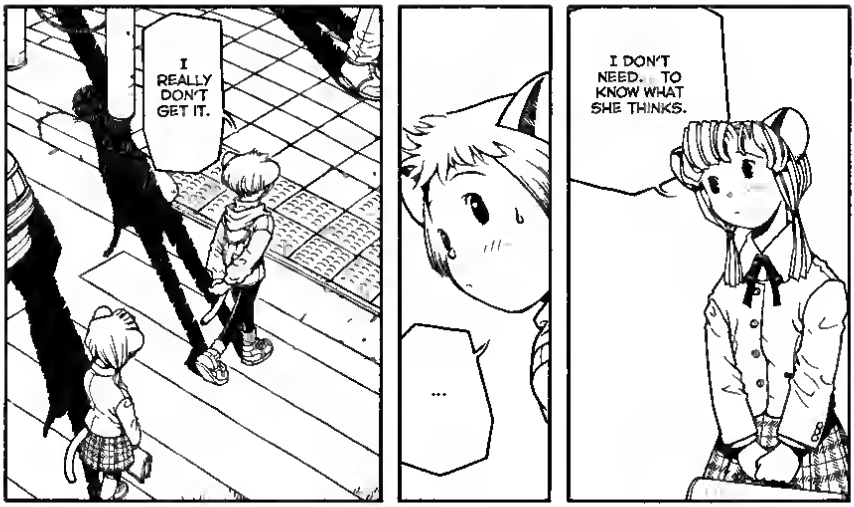

I UNDERSTAND, I UNDERSTAND, THAT'S SO LIKE YOU.
I GOT REALLY EMBARRASSED ALL OF THE SUDDEN, SO I JUST PUT IT IN THE MAILBOX AND RAN HOME.
歩行者
自転車

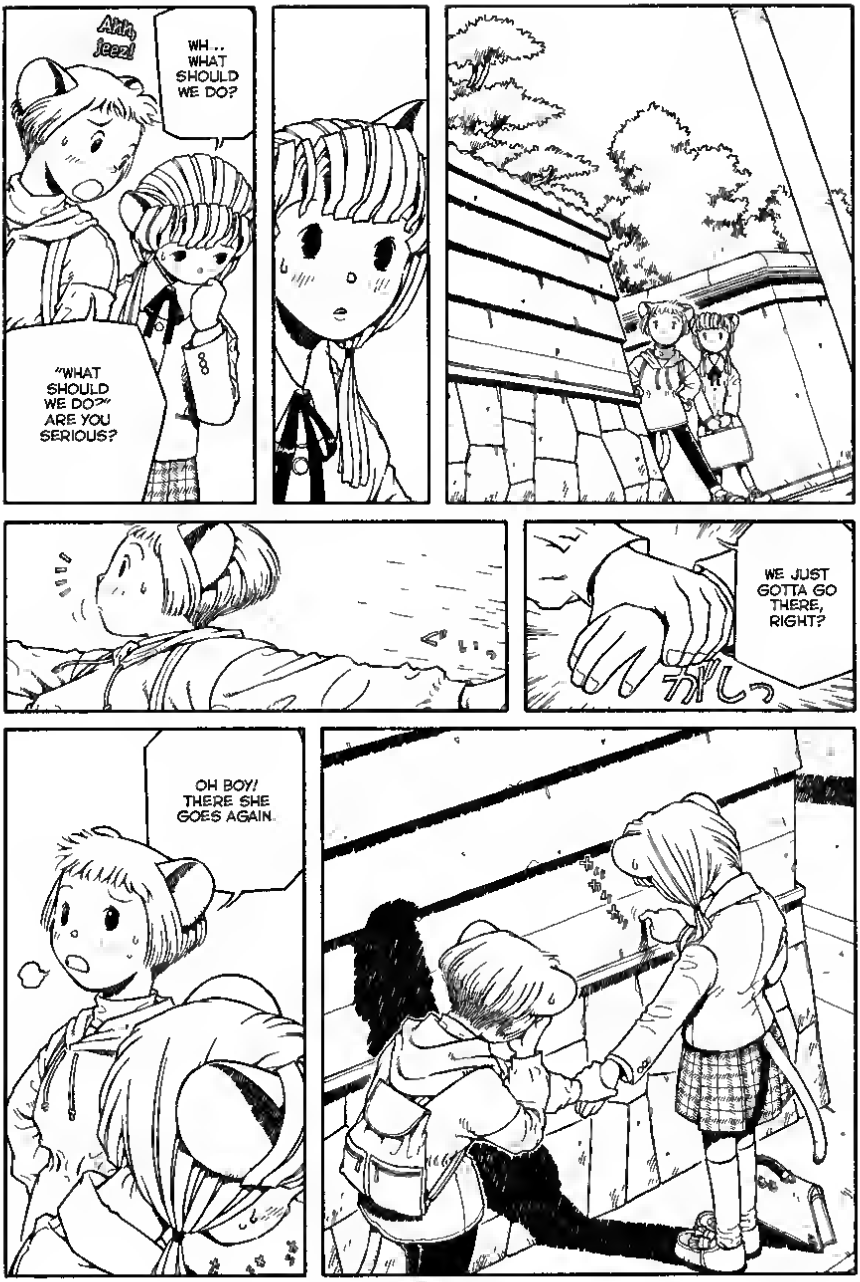


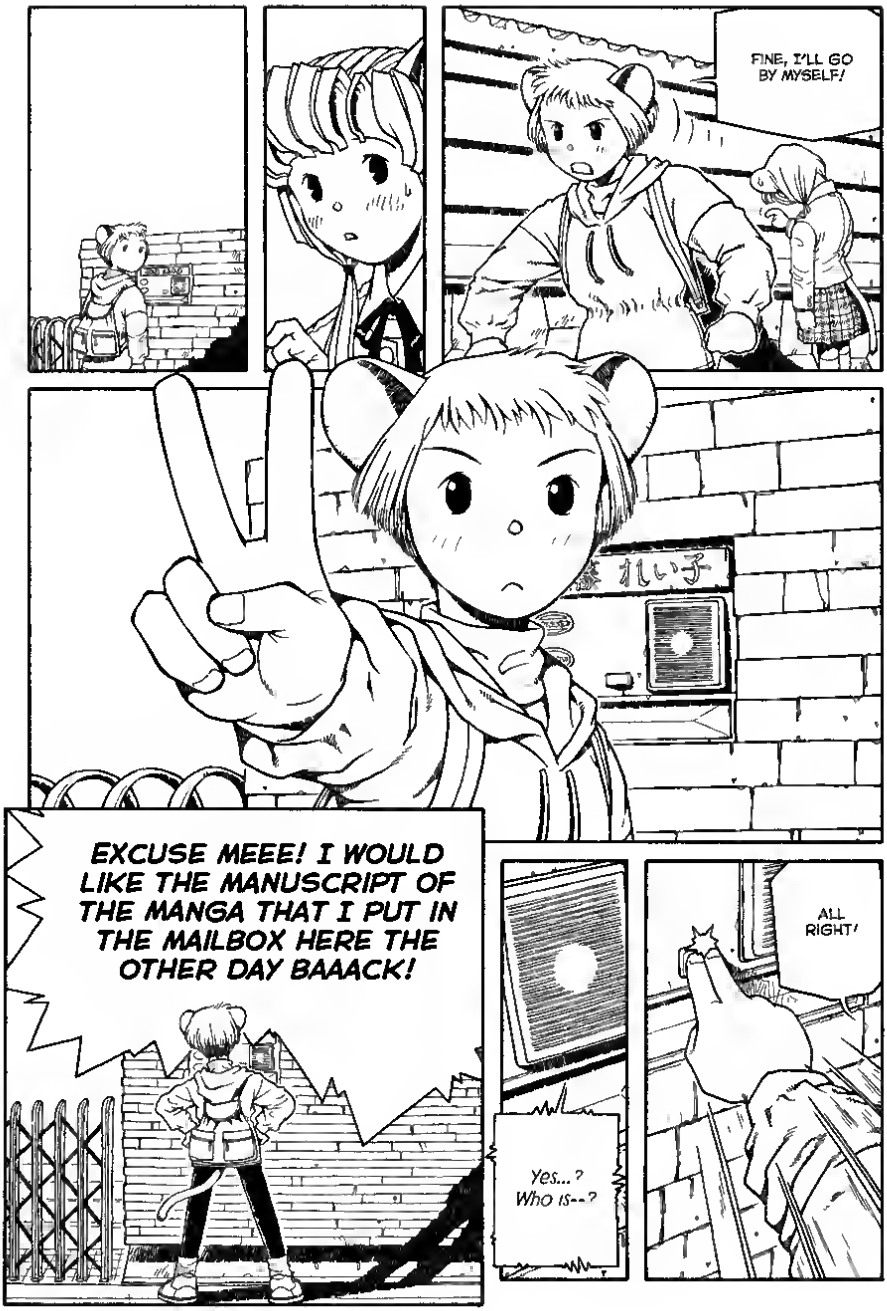

HMMM...
BUT I JUST COULDN'T RING THE DOORBELL..
I PLANNED ON ASKING HER ABOUT HER IMPRESSIONS THE NEXT DAY..


JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WANT ME TO ASK HER ABOUT WHAT SHE THOUGHT OF THE MANGA, RIGHT?
I GET IT!
NO!
NO...
HUH?


BUT I'M SCARED OF GOING BY MYSELF...
TAMA-CHAN, PLEASE COME WITH ME.
I WANT TO GET IT BACK...
BUT WHEN YOU'RE GETTING THE MANU-SCRIPT BACK...
...SHE'LL PROBABLY TELL YOU WHAT SHE THINKS, RIGHT?
I DON'T GET IT.


I REALLY DON'T GET IT.
...
I DON'T NEED... TO KNOW WHAT SHE THINKS.


Ahh, jeez!
WH.. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
"WHAT SHOULD WE DO?" ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WE JUST GOTTA GO THERE, RIGHT?
OH BOY! THERE SHE GOES AGAIN.


FINE, I'LL GO BY MYSELF!
れいこ
EXCUSE MEEE! I WOULD LIKE THE MANUSCRIPT OF THE MANGA THAT I PUT IN THE MAILBOX HERE THE OTHER DAY BAAACK!
Yes...? Who is--?
ALL RIGHT!

WHAT?!
W... WAIT A SECOND...
COME ON, THE KID WHO DREW *THAT* MANUSCRIPT IS HERE.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
GO WAKE UP THE SENSEI!

IN THE NAP ROOM...
SHE SAID SHE WANTS HER MANUSCRIPT BACK...
BUT THE SENSEI IS ..
WH ..
EH?...
ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS ...
Shoot!
HURRY UP!
WHO'S GOING TO GO?
THEY SAID TO WAIT A SECOND...

* "BE QUIET WHILE I TAKE A NAP!!"
仮眠中は静かにする事!!
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
...
...
CLICK
SEN--
UM...

I TOLD YOU NOT TO BOTHER ME WITH PHONE MESSAGES WHILE I'M NAPPING, DIDN'T I?!
I... I'M SORRY!
IDIOT!
EEEK!
WHY IS EVERYONE ALWAYS SO INSENSI-TIVE?!
Um... Hello?
I'm in a bit of a rush...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THAT FIGURES ...
SHE GOT MAD AT ME...

SO YOU'RE NEMU-SAN?
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WAIT.
I SEE...
ペこっ
NEMU IS OVER THERE.

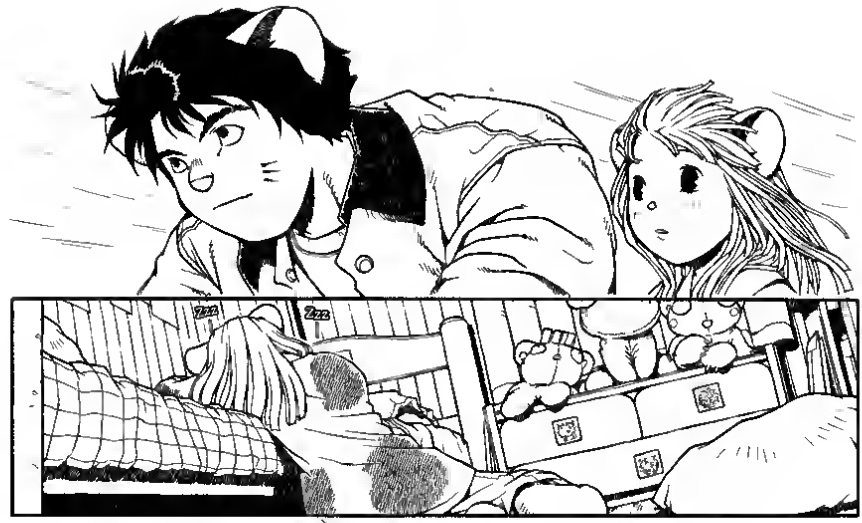
SHE WAS REALLY SURPRISED. SHE SAID IT WAS PRO LEVEL.
Nemu
UNFORTUNATELY, THE SENSEI IS CURRENTLY RESTING AFTER WORKING ALL NIGHT...
HER CONTACT INFORMATION WASN'T WRITTEN ON IT, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD TELL US WHAT IT IS?
I CAN'T DO THAT...
WELL, I'M AFRAID...
AH, HOLD ON!
THANK YOU!
SO THEN...

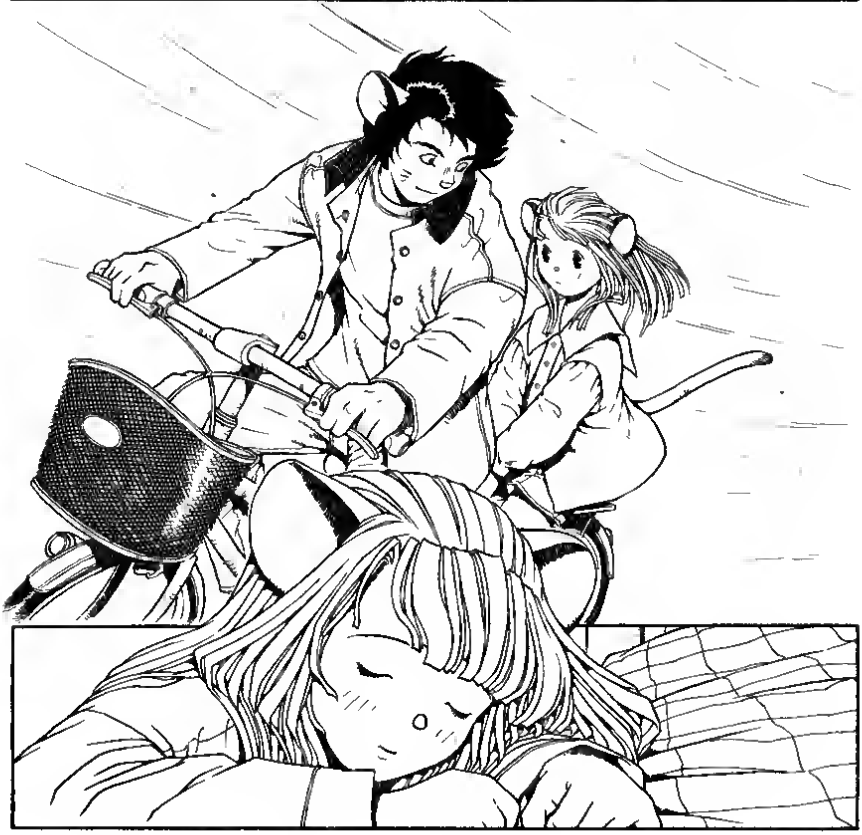
Jemu
Yup Yup
THEY SAID IT WAS PRO LEVEL.
NOW YOU KNOW YOUR OWN LEVEL. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TRY OUT FOR ONE OF THOSE NEW ARTIST AWARDS AT A MAGAZINE.
CON-GRATS!

WHAAAAT? YOU'RE SO WEIRD.
...

I JUST WANTED IT BACK.
I'M NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING LIKE THIS ANYMORE...
WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP?!

I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO ASK WHAT YOU TOLD HER.
JEEZ...
BUT SENSEI, YOU SAID...
NO EXCUSES!
I'M SORRY ...
AND JUST WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR A SKILLED YOUNG ASSISTANT...





Vol. 6: A Little Resolution • End

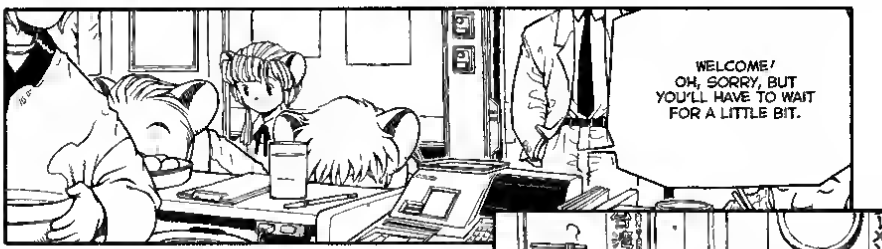
Vol. 7: Double Booking

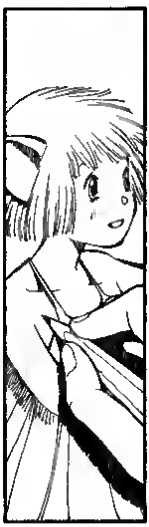
RRRING
RRRING
HM...?
I'm sorry, is this Goro Kimura-sensei's residence?

I've been keeping my eye out on your works for a while now.
This is my first time calling.
YEAH...
I'm a big fan, hehehe...
My name is Kawamura. I'm from the editing department of S publishing. Sorry to bother you.
COULD YOU PLEASE STOP CALLING ME SENSEI...?
Ohh, of course...
...and I would love to include something written by you, Sensei...
I'm calling because our publishing company is going to be launching a new comic magazine...

I JUST THOUGHT I'D LOAF AROUND FOR A BIT TILL I STARTED FEELING LIKE DOING IT AGAIN...
SORRY, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN WORKING LATELY.
Sensei...
I'M SORRY, I'LL HAVE TO DECLINE
Er, I mean, Kimura-san, I would really like to meet up with you and just talk...
I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T. IT'D BE RUDE OF ME...
It'll be completely unrelated to whether or not you can draw something for us. Please!
...TO MAKE YOU COME ALL THE WAY DOWN HERE FROM TOKYO WHEN I DON'T EVEN FEEL LIKE DRAWING.

Well, actually I'll be taking a business trip to your prefecture tonight.
HUH...
...the circumstances being what they are, I was wondering if I could have a few minutes of your time to talk.
By no means am I doing this just "en passant," but...
I'm begging you!
...
FINE...
R-really? Thank you so much!

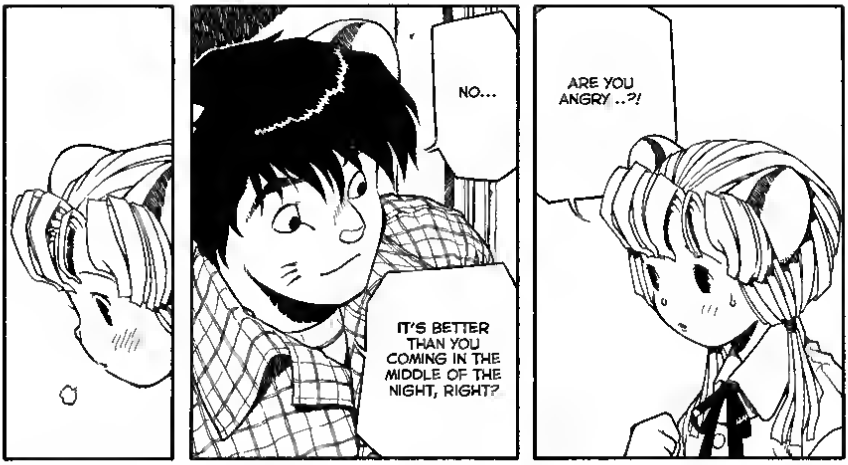


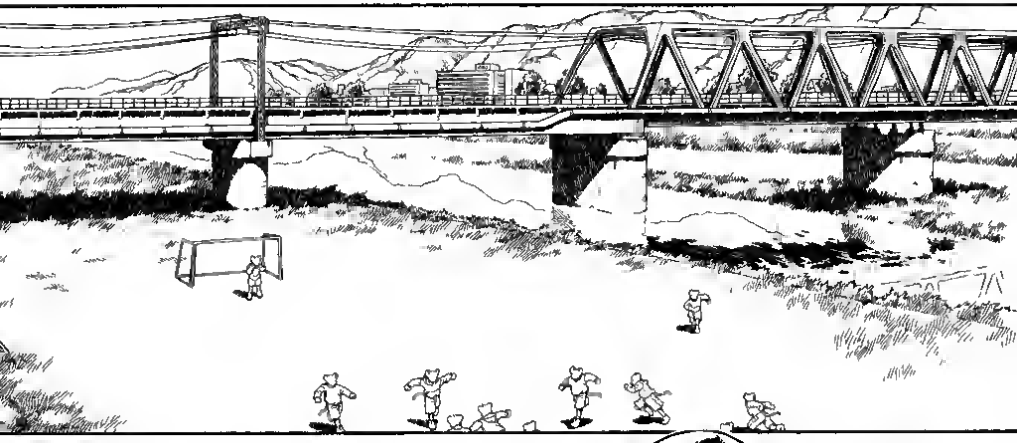


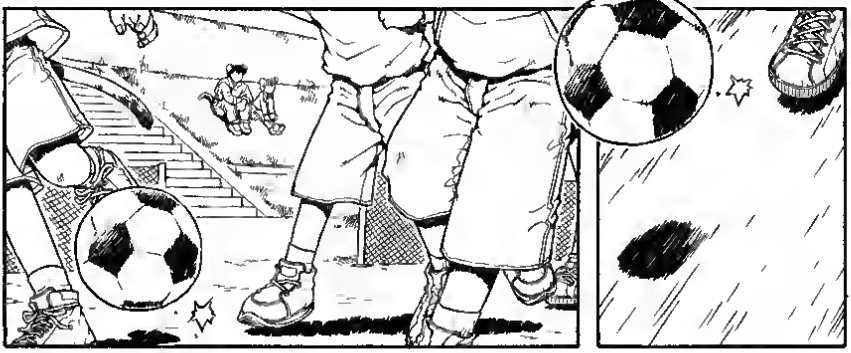
"ARE YOU A DELINQUENT...?"

"... WERE DELINQUENTS WHOSE PARENTS HAD EVEN GIVEN UP ON THEM."
"I WAS JUST THINKING THAT THE ONLY ONES THAT WERE OUT ON THEIR OWN WILL THIS LATE ..
...

OH...
ガチャ


NO...
IT'S BETTER THAN YOU COMING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, RIGHT?
ARE YOU ANGRY ..?!

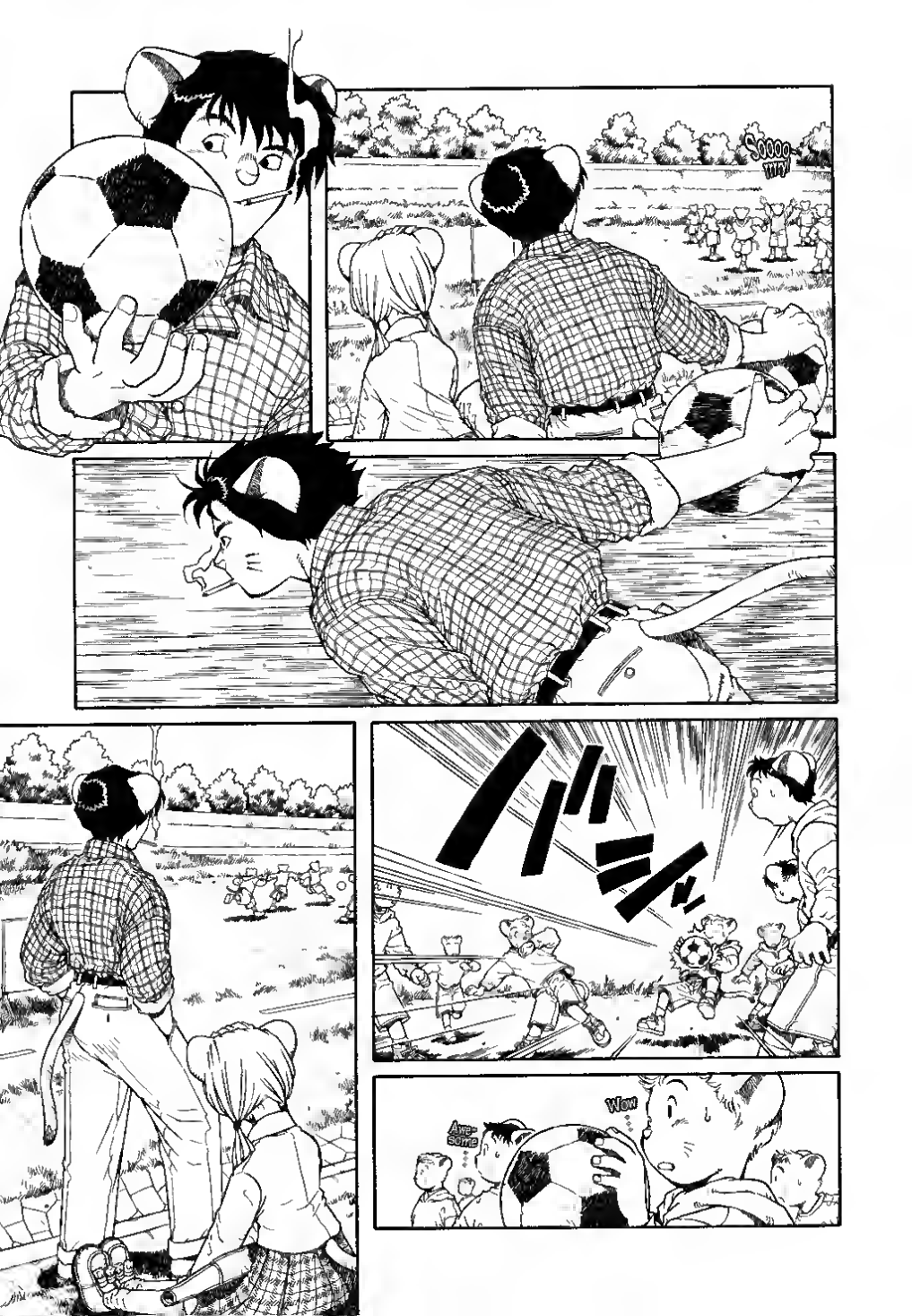


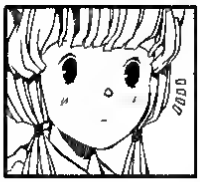


HOW MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN...
WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL I WAS ALWAYS HANGING OUT HERE AND SMOKING..
I DIDN'T WANT TO GO HOME EITHER.
...IN REALITY I WAS EXTREMELY GLOOMY AND DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS...
I COULDN'T DEAL WITH IT...
IN THE CLASS-ROOM I WAS ALWAYS HORSING AROUND WITH EVERYONE, BUT ..

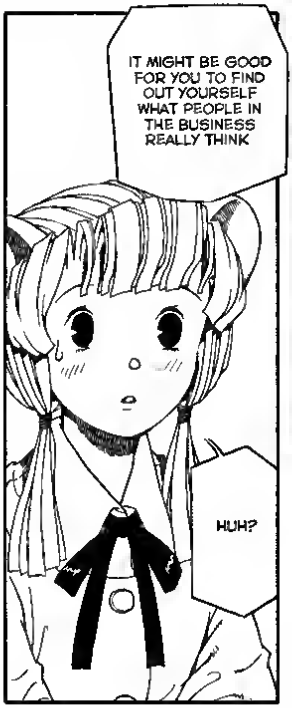
I WOULD JUST SMOKE HERE FOR HOURS WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT ANYTHING...
!
N... NOTHING PARTICU-LAR.
DIDN'T YOU HAVE SOME-THING YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?

I JUST WANTED TO SEE YOU...
ARE YOU...
...WORKING ON SOMETHING RIGHT NOW?

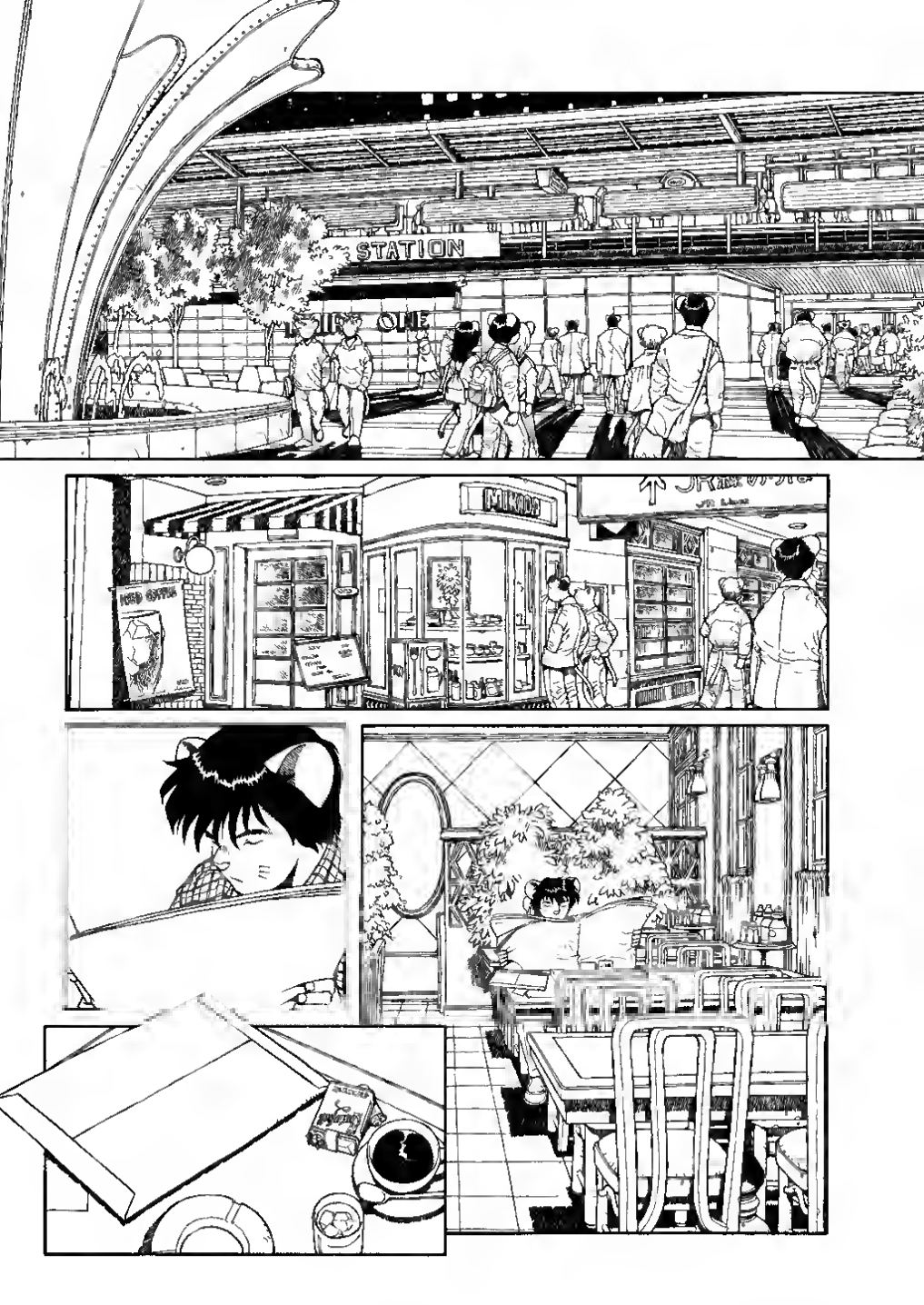

Soooo
Awe-
Some
Wow

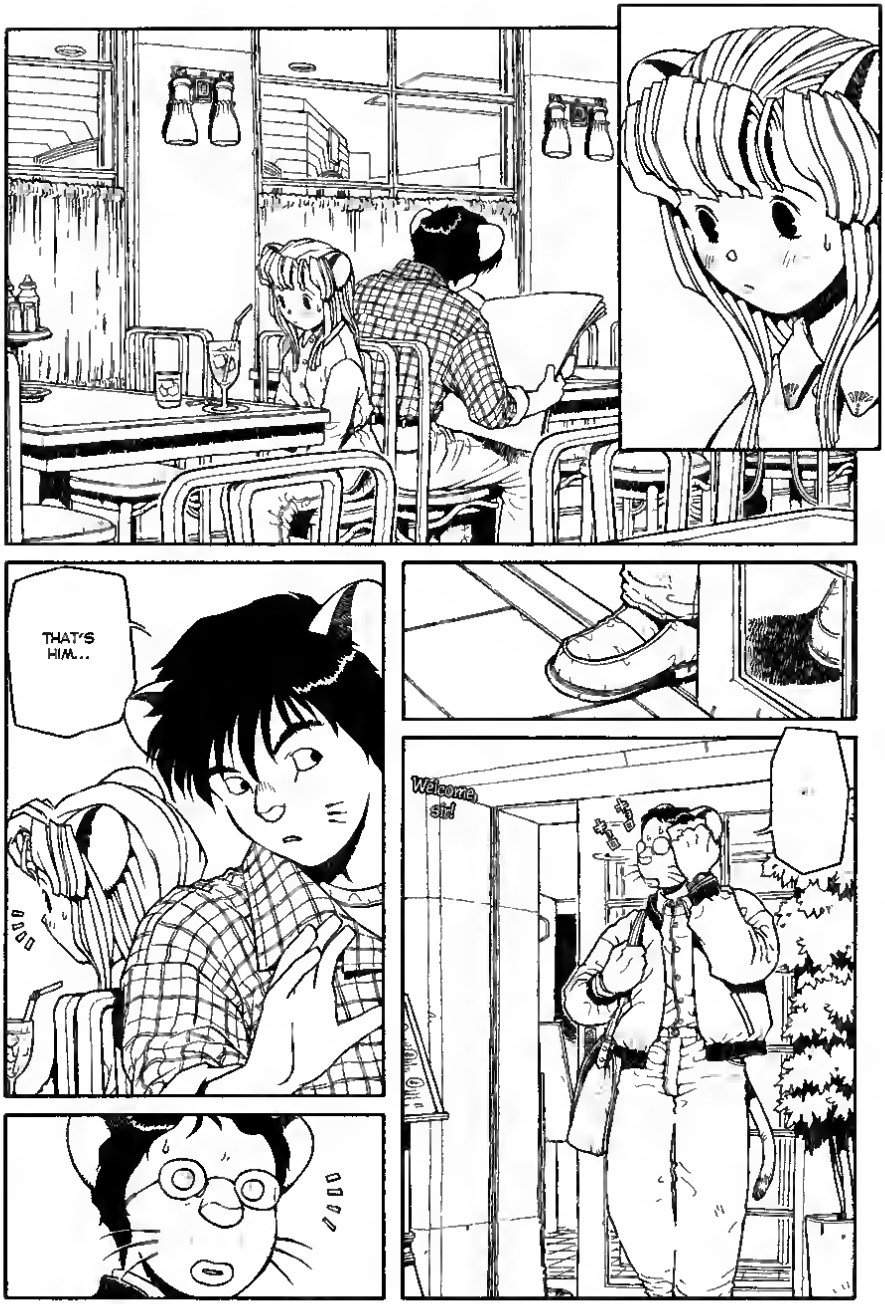


ALL RIGHT, I'VE DECIDED!


IT MIGHT BE GOOD FOR YOU TO FIND OUT YOURSELF WHAT PEOPLE IN THE BUSINESS REALLY THINK
HUH?

I'M MEETING THE EDITOR TONIGHT AND I'M GONNA SHOW HIM YOUR DRAWINGS, KID...
I MEAN, I'LL SHOW HIM YOUR WORK.


STATION
MINOU

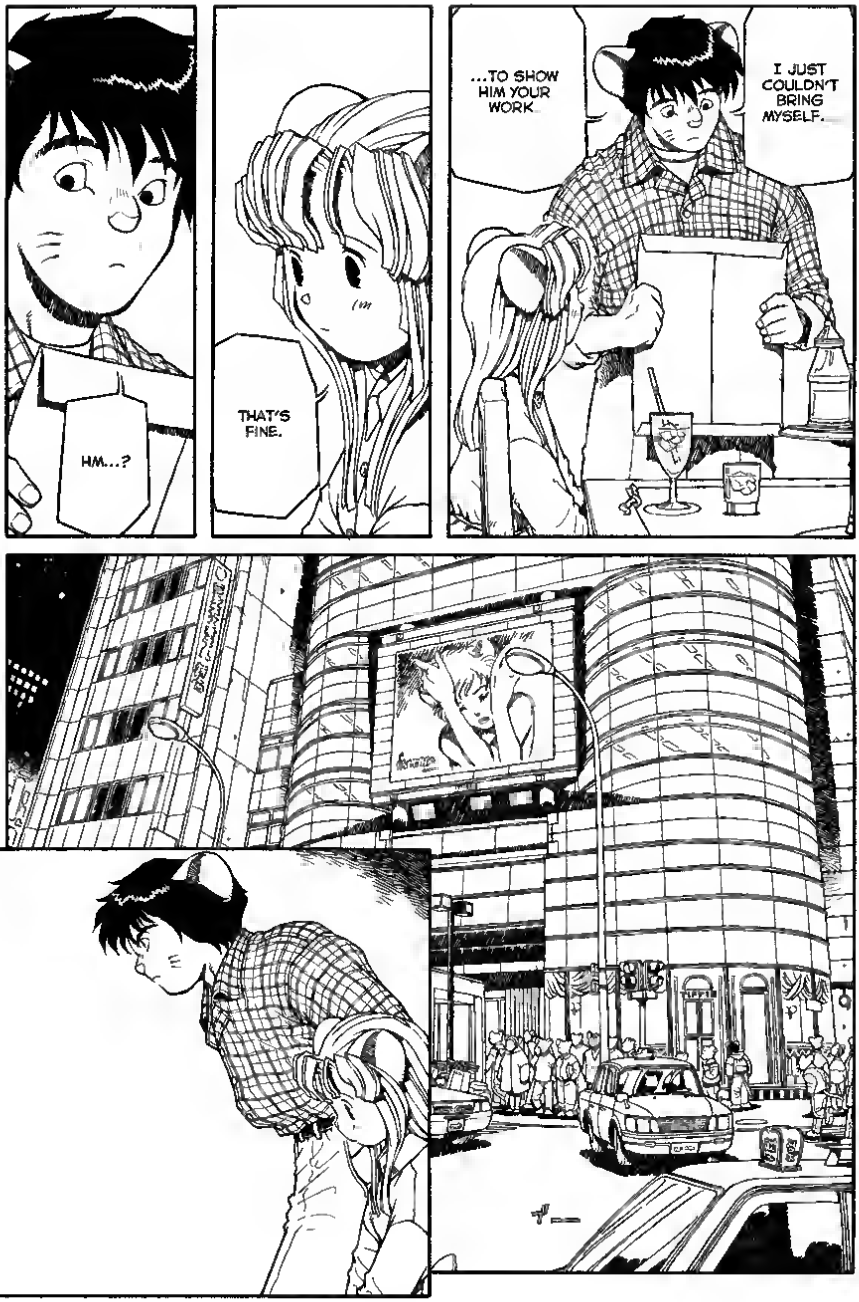

THAT'S HIM...
Welcome, sir!

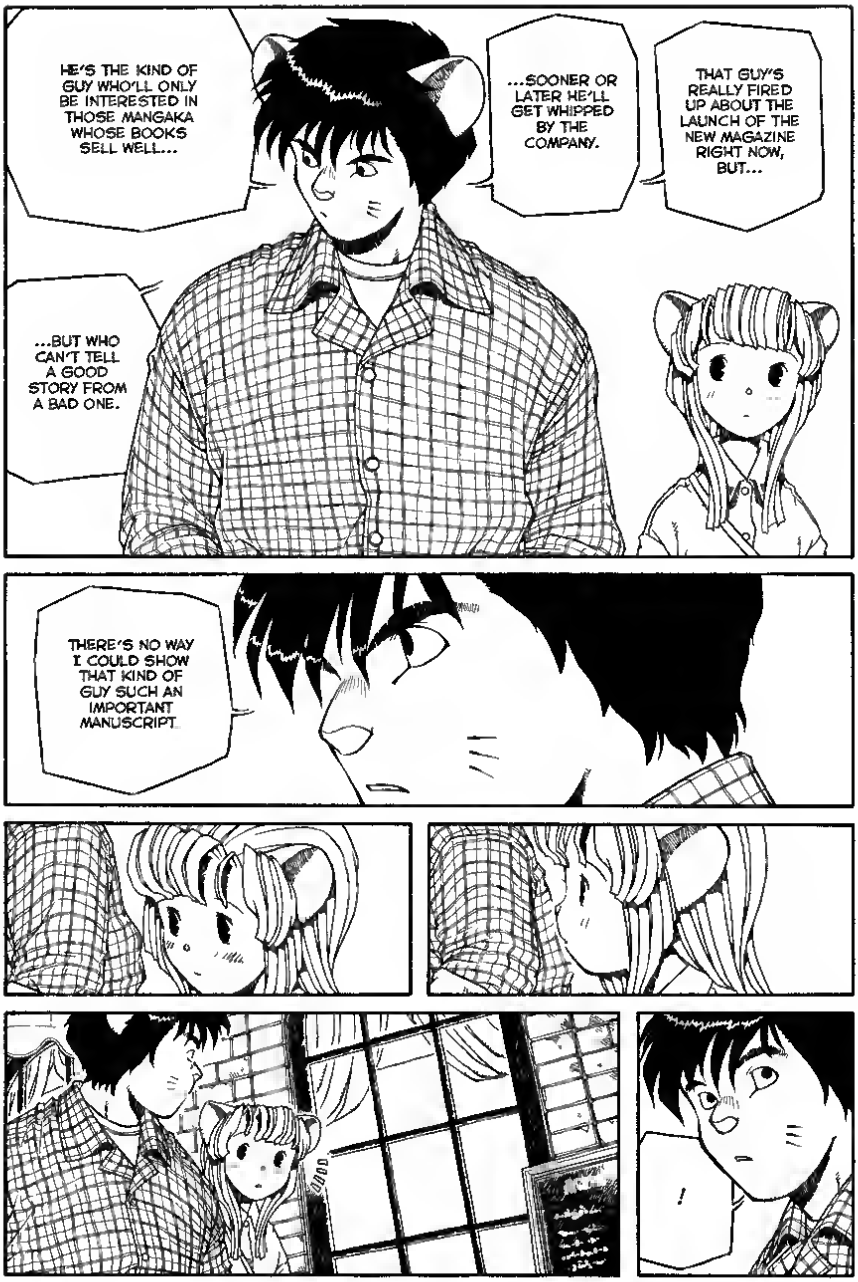
NICE TO MEET YOU.
EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU GORO KIMURA-SENSEI?
I'M KAWAMURA FROM THE EDITING DEPARTMENT AT S PUBLISHING.
TO BE HONEST, I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D AGREE TO SEE ME.
SAME HERE, NICE TO MEET YOU.

A TOMATO JUICE FOR ME.
DO YOU MIND IF I SMOKE?
OH, PLEASE GO AHEAD
NO, I NEVER INTENDED TO DO THAT. I'VE JUST BEEN BUMMING ABOUT.
THERE WERE FREQUENT RUMORS IN THE INDUSTRY THAT YOU HAD GONE BACK TO YOUR HOME TOWN TO CHARGE UP FOR YOUR NEXT WORK.
HA HA HA HA HA
AWW, YOU ARE JUST FULL OF JOKES!
HA HA HA HA HA
AH HA HA HA HA

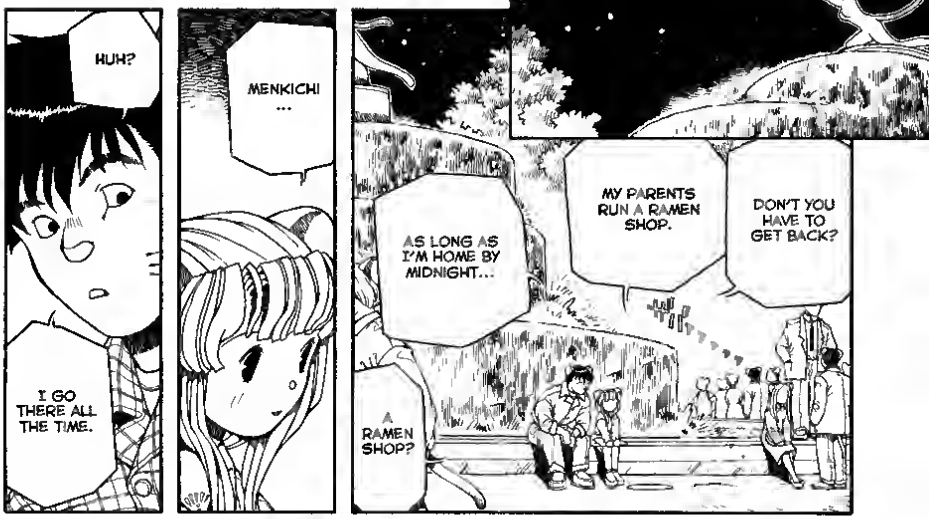
...
カラン
GORO-SAN IS GETTING MAD...

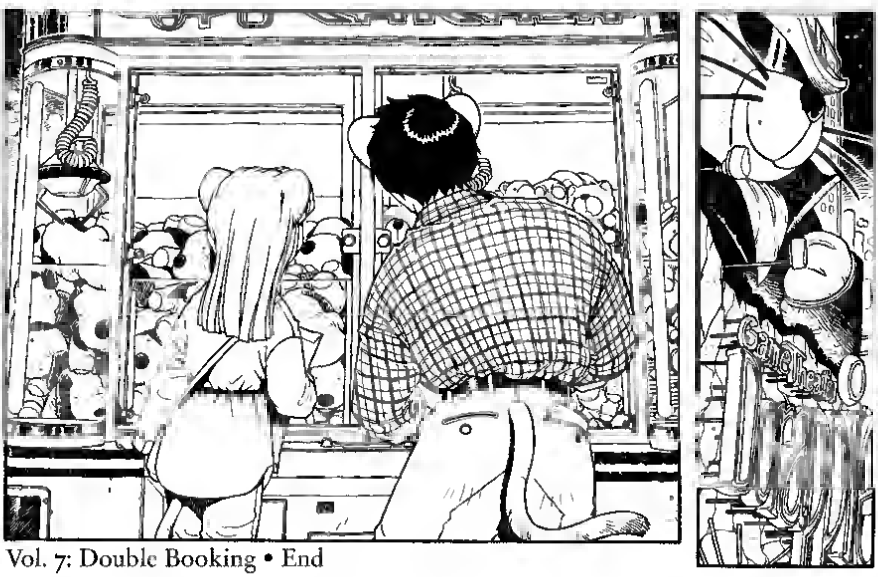
IF YOU GET ANY NEW IDEAS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR EDITING DEPARTMENT.
THANKS FOR YOUR TIME.
WELL THEN, I HOPE WE CAN MEET AGAIN.
SORRY, KID...
EXIT


HM...?
THAT'S FINE.
...TO SHOW HIM YOUR WORK.
I JUST COULDN'T BRING MYSELF.


HE'S THE KIND OF GUY WHO'LL ONLY BE INTERESTED IN THOSE MANGAKA WHOSE BOOKS SELL WELL....
...SOONER OR LATER HE'LL GET WHIPPED BY THE COMPANY.
THAT GUY'S REALLY FIRED UP ABOUT THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW MAGAZINE RIGHT NOW, BUT...
...BUT WHO CAN'T TELL A GOOD STORY FROM A BAD ONE.
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD SHOW THAT KIND OF GUY SUCH AN IMPORTANT MANUSCRIPT.
!

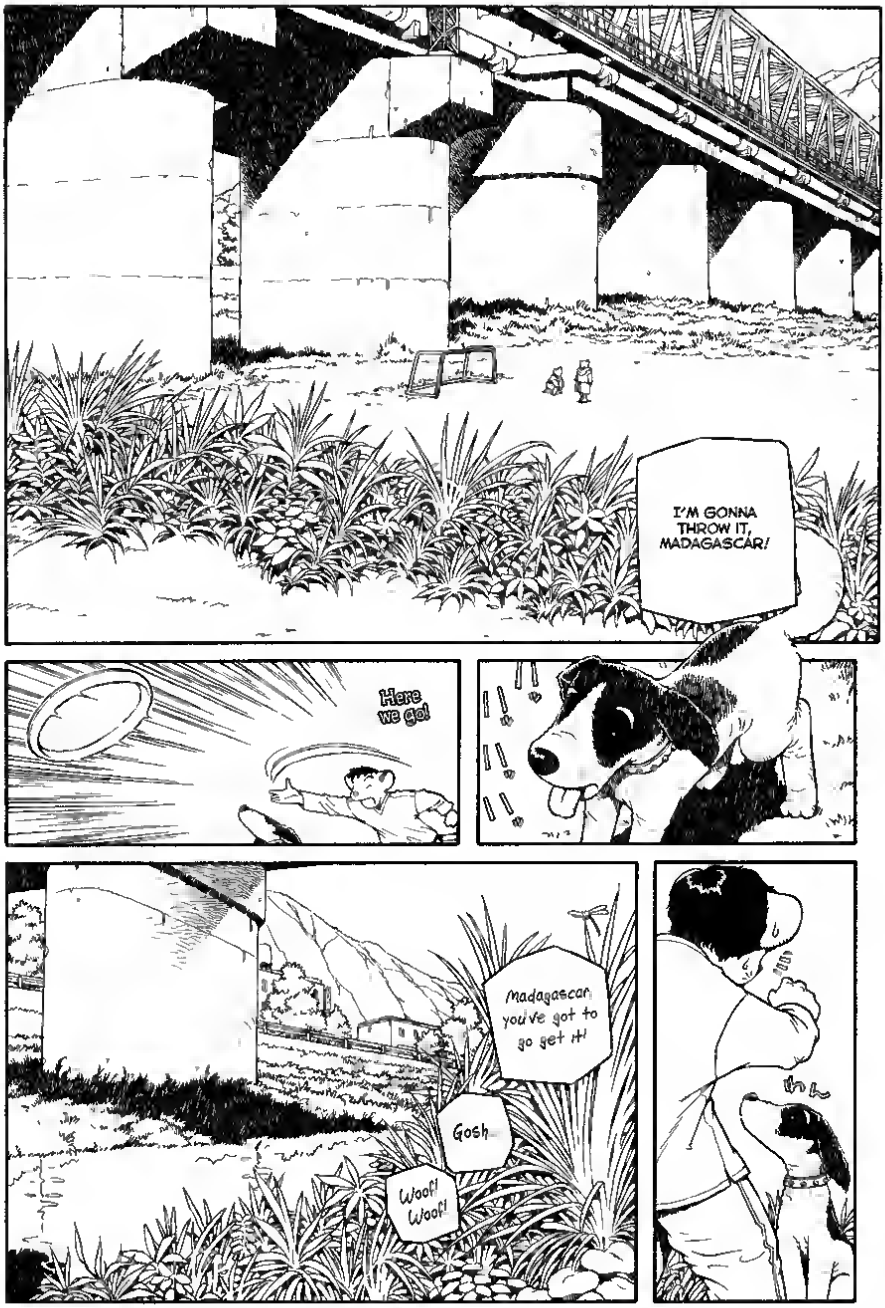
SO IT WAS A DOUBLE BOOKING WITH REIKO ITOH, HUH?
I SEE.


HUH?
I GO THERE ALL THE TIME.
MENKICHI ...
A RAMEN SHOP?
AS LONG AS I'M HOME BY MIDNIGHT...
MY PARENTS RUN A RAMEN SHOP.
DON'T YOU HAVE TO GET BACK?



Vol. 7: Double Booking • End

Vol. 8: Capricious Goro

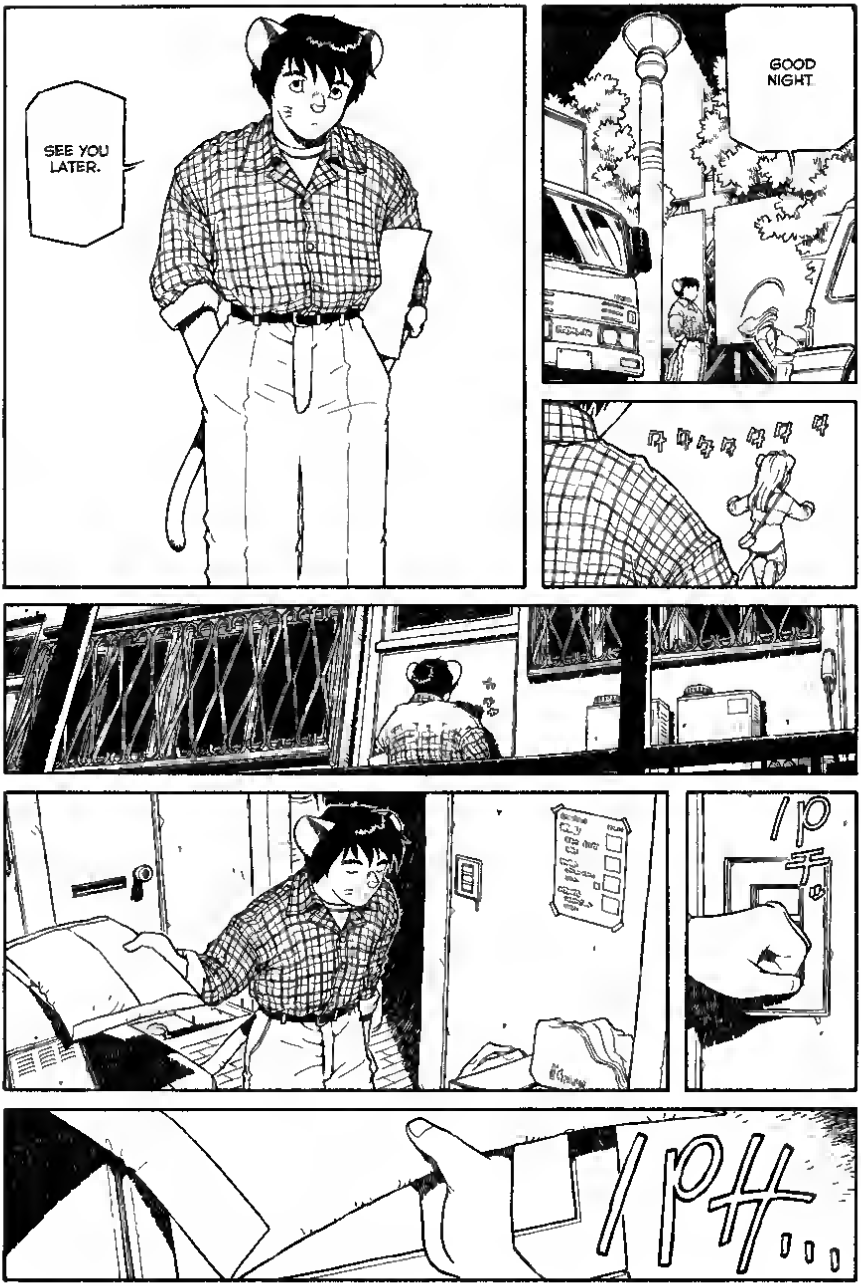

I'M GONNA THROW IT, MADAGASCAR!
Here we go!
Madagascar, you've got to go get it!
Gosh...
Woof! Woof!

DO YOU ALWAYS COME HERE, GORO-SAN?
おでん
YOUR BOY-FRIEND'S A REGULAR CUSTOMER HERE.

1 ODEN

トトト
WWW
HA HA HA HA!
COME ON, OLD MAN.
I wasn't gonna let her drink.
HEY, YOU ORDER SOMETHING TOO...
NO ALCOHOL TILL SHE'S TWENTY!

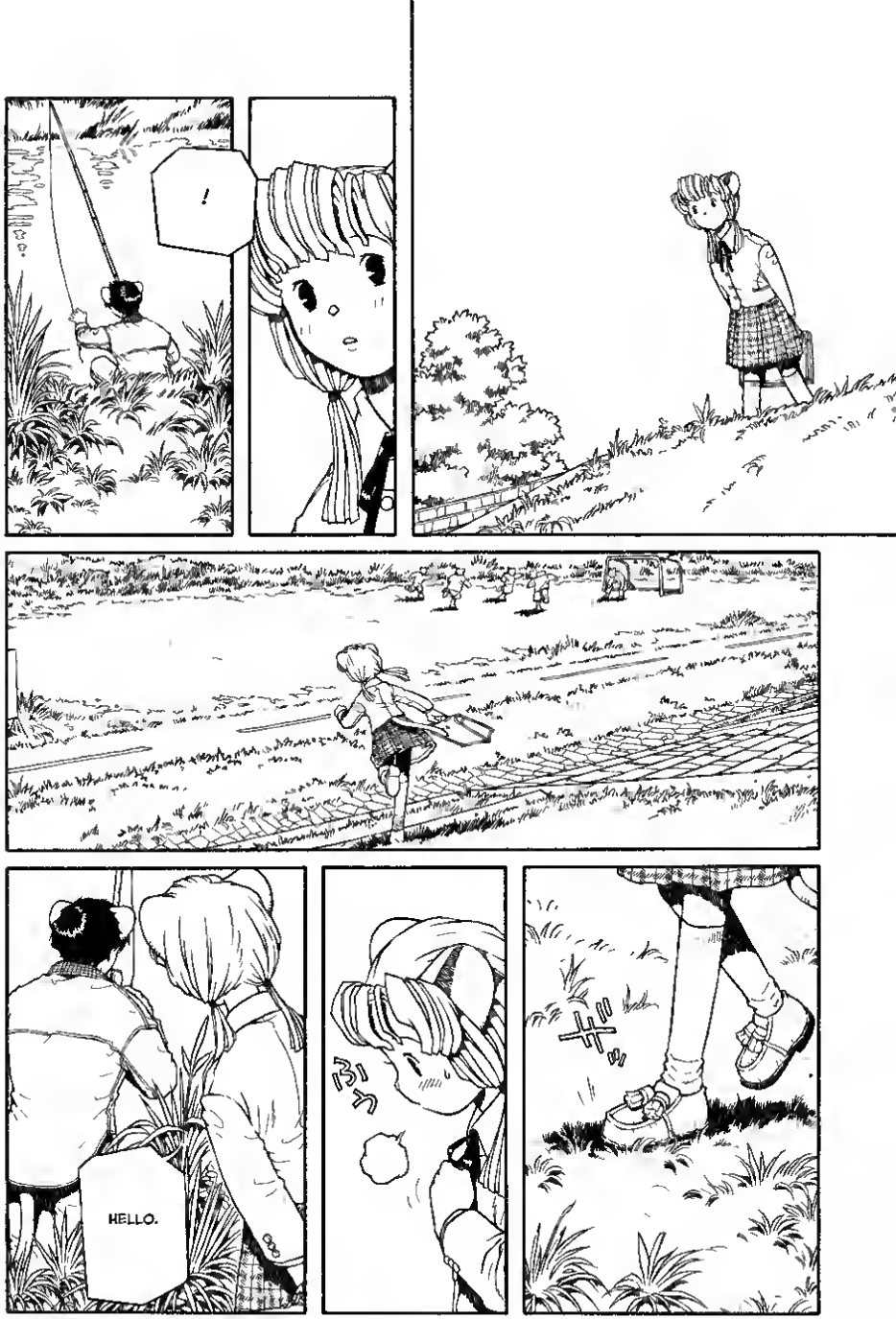
ん
HNNNG.
I MEAN...
IN THE END I DIDN'T SHOW THE EDITOR YOUR WORK, KID.
...
IT'S NEMU.
DON'T GET MAD ABOUT IT...
IT'S NOT "KID!" I'VE GOT A NAME, YOU KNOW!
MY NAME'S...
A-ALL RIGHT, I GET IT.


SEE YOU LATER.
GOOD NIGHT.
ガチャ
ドサ
ハァ…

AHH!
!
A BABY CHICK TRYING FRANTICALLY TO MOVE HER IMMATURE WINGS...
SHE'S A BABY CHICK.

...SHE WAS ABLE TO DRAW SOMETHING OVERFLOWING WITH ENTHUSIASM LIKE THIS.
WITH THAT SORT OF PURITY...
WOULD I BE ABLE TO...?
AHHH!

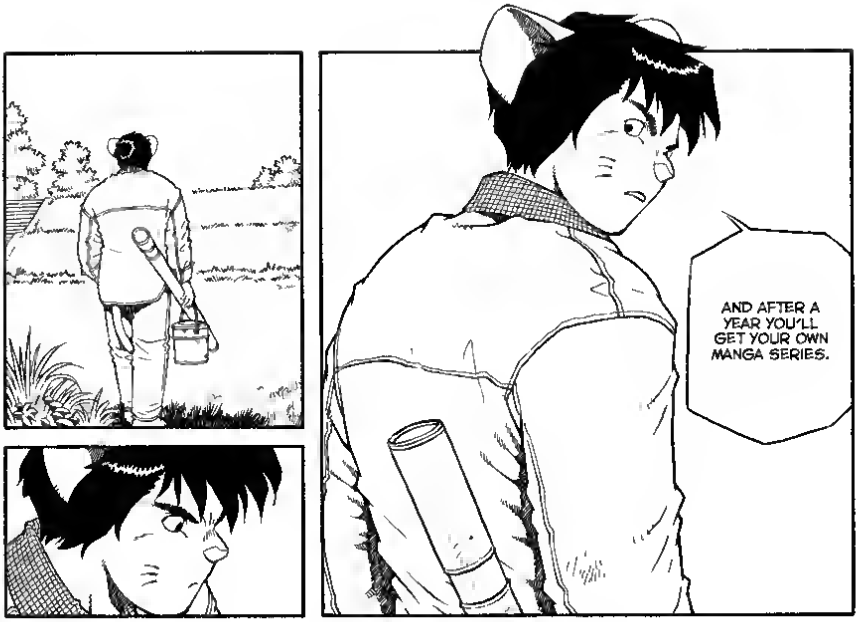
AH!
YOU GOT A BITE!
グイッ
...
THAT'S TOO BAD.
AWWW..

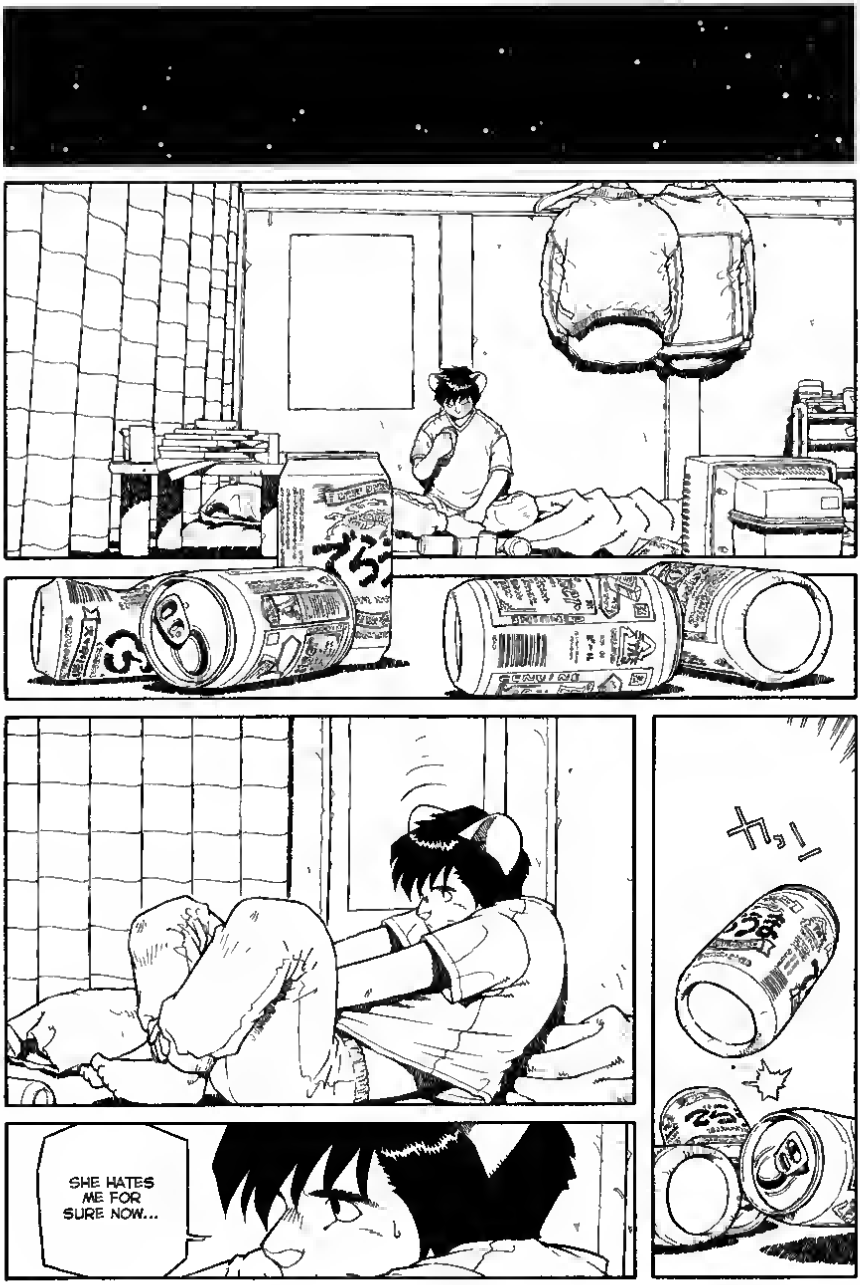

!
HELLO.
ふう
ガッ

...AT YOUR APARTMENT...
YOU WEREN'T ...
...SO I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU WERE HERE.
HM?!
I NEVER KNEW...
...THAT YOU FISHED.
I JUST FELT LIKE DOING IT...

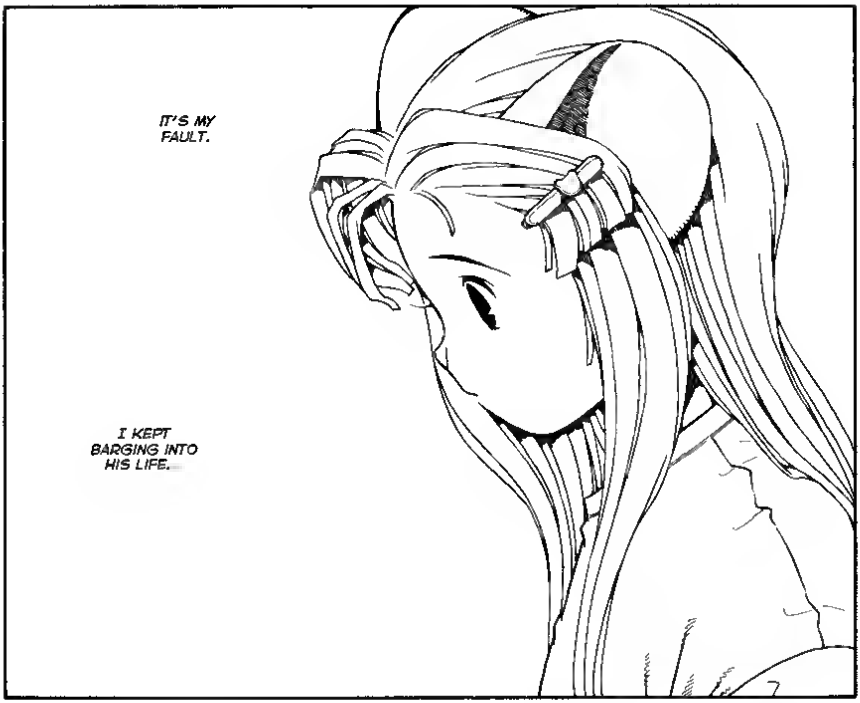
PLEASE TEACH ME...
...MORE ABOUT MANGA.
HUH?
DON'T COME OVER TO MY PLACE ANYMORE.

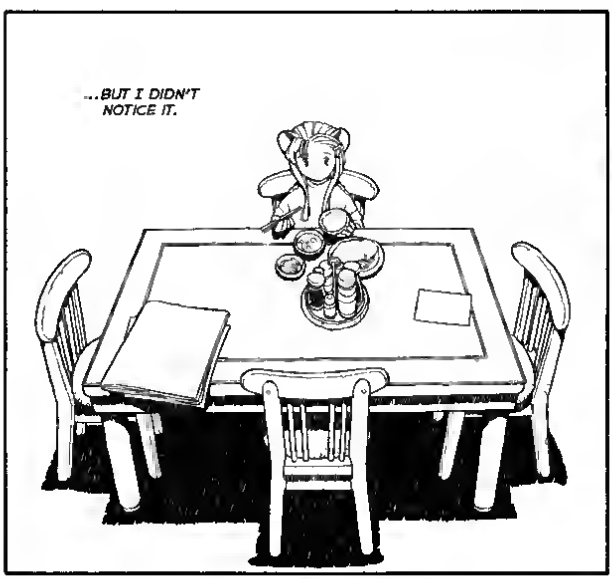
I'M NOT THAT FULL OF MYSELF.
I CAN'T TEACH ANYONE...
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TEACH OTHER PEOPLE.
YOU'D DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO WIN AN AWARD.
...JUST GO AND ENTER SOME MAGAZINE'S MANGA COMPETITION.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE...


AND AFTER A YEAR YOU'LL GET YOUR OWN MANGA SERIES.


SHE HATES ME FOR SURE NOW...

Dear Namiu,
Welcome Home.
Dinner is in the Fridge.
Mom
HE HATES ME...
...


IT'S MY FAULT.
I KEPT BARGING INTO HIS LIFE.

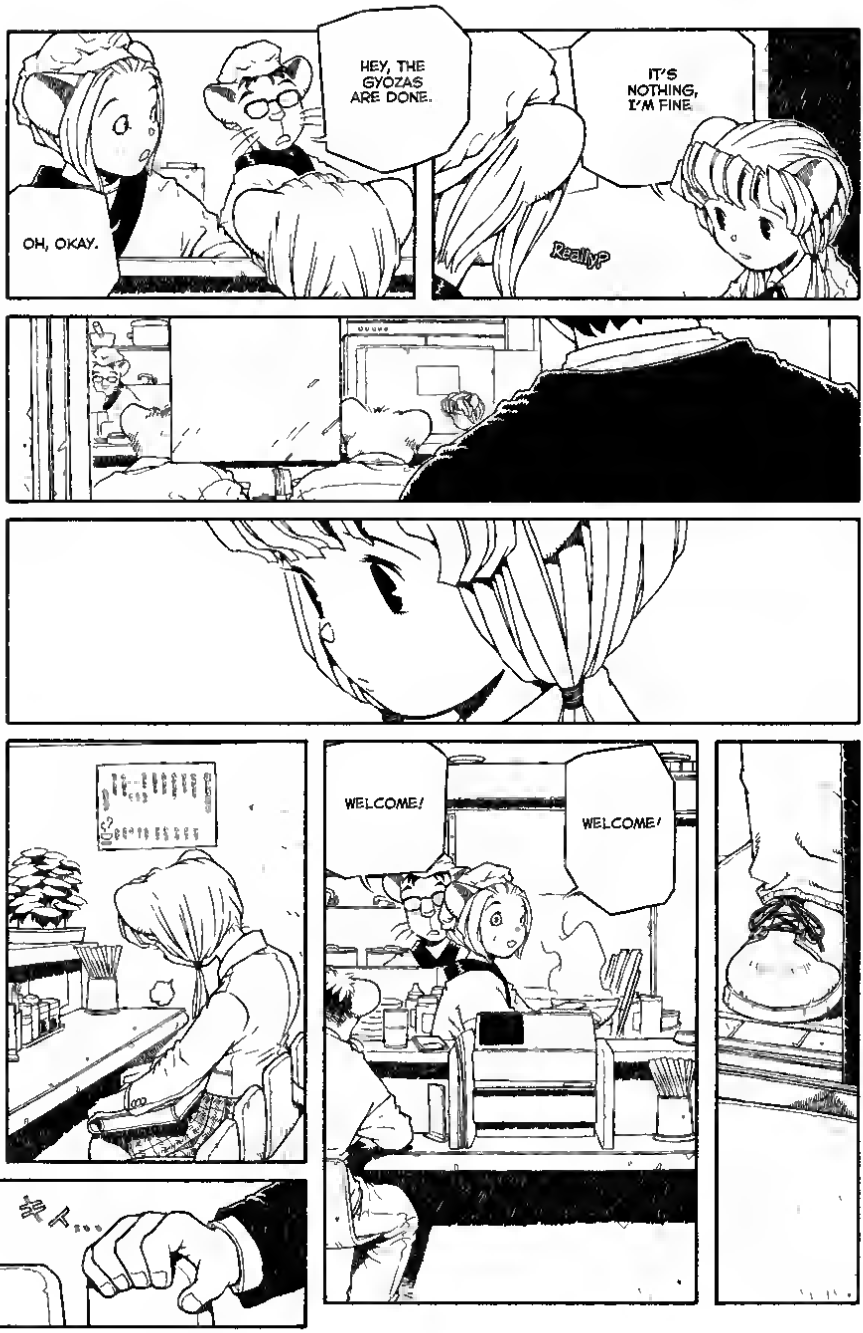

...BUT I DIDN'T NOTICE IT.

GORO-SAN WAS GETTING ANNOYED...

Jeez, this class is so...
COME ON, QUIET DOWN
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING TO MY EXPLANATION?
IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS TO GOOF OFF LIKE USUAL SO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PAY ATTENTION.
UNDER-STOOD?
Okaaay.
Uh-huh.
WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?
SO...
Just wing it!
Just wing it!
Yeah!
Yeah!

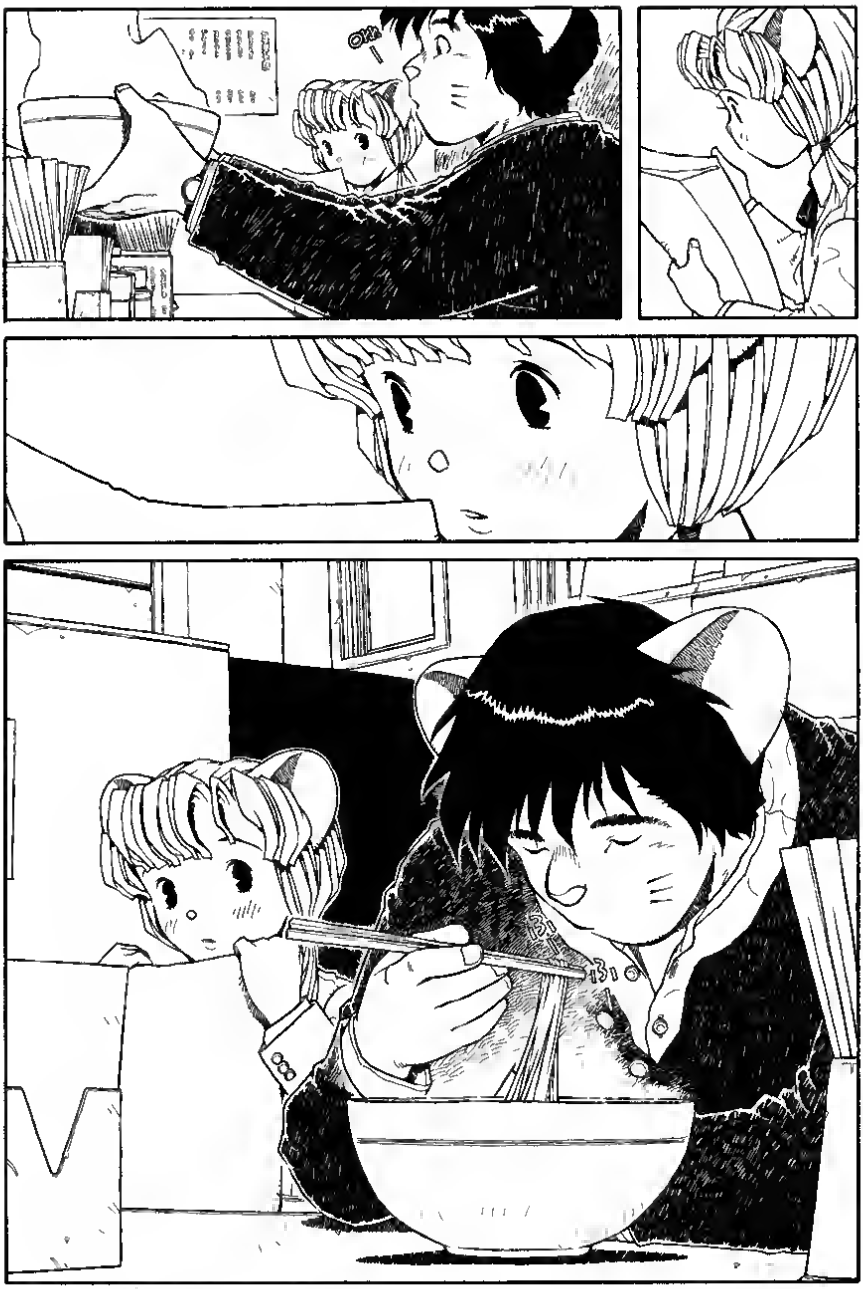
I SAID, I DUNNO!
IS THIS HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO END UP?
I DUNNO!
HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT IS IT?
YES?
SENSEI.
IT'S CALLED DEPOSIT
THERE'S SOME DISCHARGE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BEAKER...
Why?
Sensei, this is gross!

WELCOME!
YOU LOOK PALE.
WHAT'S WRONG?!
NEMU.
Spring onions, miso, roast pork rice, small please...


HEY, THE GYOZAS ARE DONE.
OH, OKAY.
IT'S NOTHING, I'M FINE.
Really?
WELCOME!
WELCOME!

TAIWAN RAMEN, LARGE.
Right away!
HEY.
GORO-SAN...

I FELT LIKE...
...HAVING SOME RAMEN.
UM... ABOUT LAST TIME, I'M...

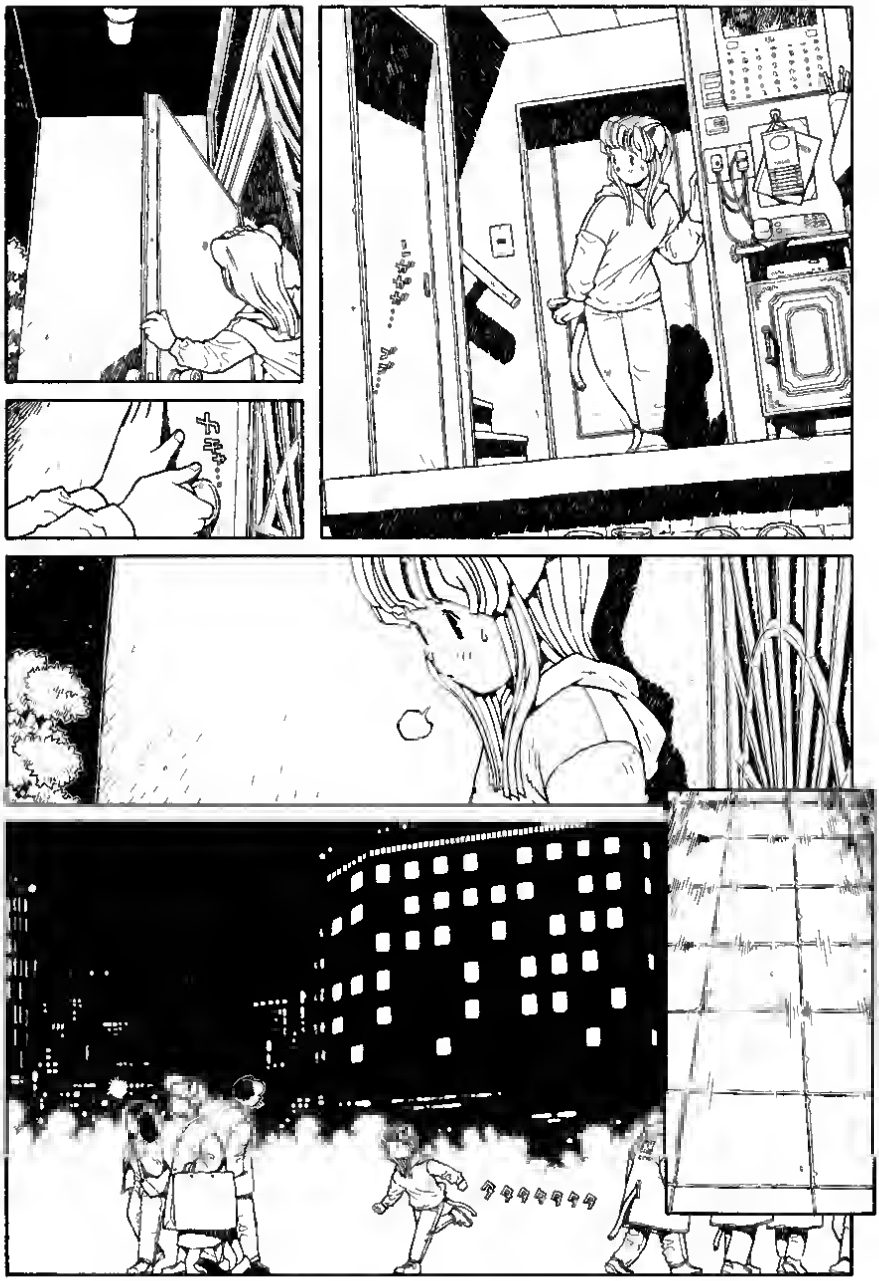


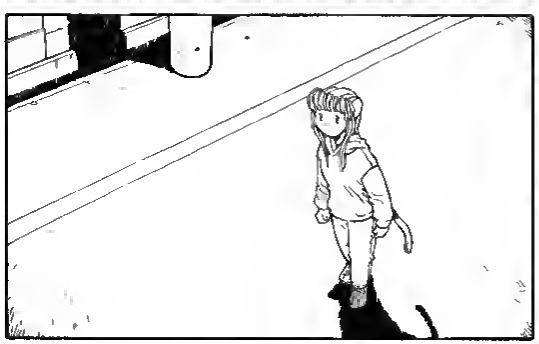
Vol. 8: Capricious Goro • End

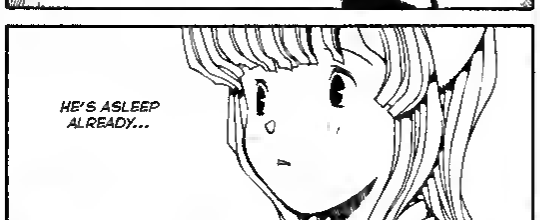
Vol. 9: Goro, Gone

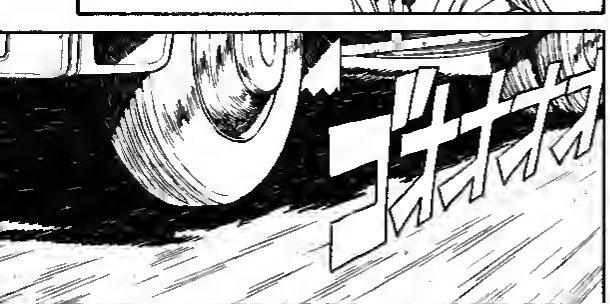
...JUST GO AND ENTER SOME MAGAZINE'S MANGA COMPETITION.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE...

YOU'D DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO WIN AN AWARD.
194...


ぐすっ…



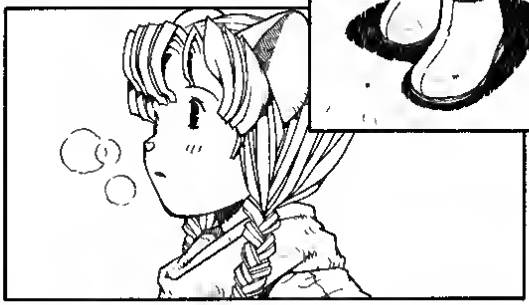

HE'S ASLEEP
ALREADY...

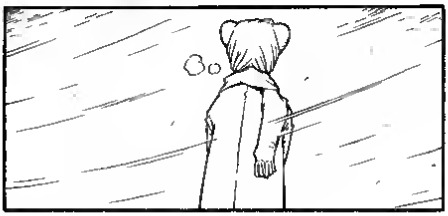

ゴォォォ

* BOW-WOW MOVERS
引越し
わんわん
ゴオオ
maNda
ゴオオオオオ

ゴオオオオオ
The Headlights sing a song for you in the cockpit...
I ENVY YOU.
TOKYO, HUH? THAT'S NICE.
HM...?! YEAH...

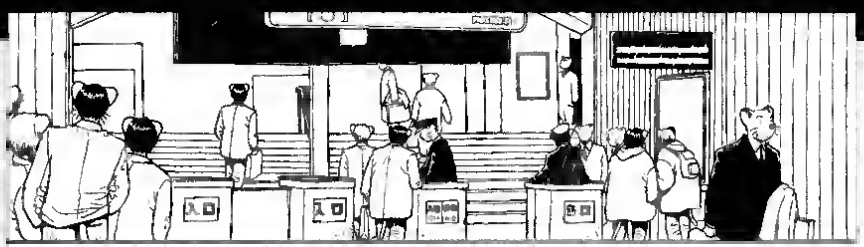
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A PENCIL PUSHER...
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

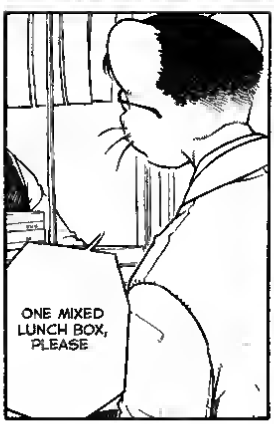


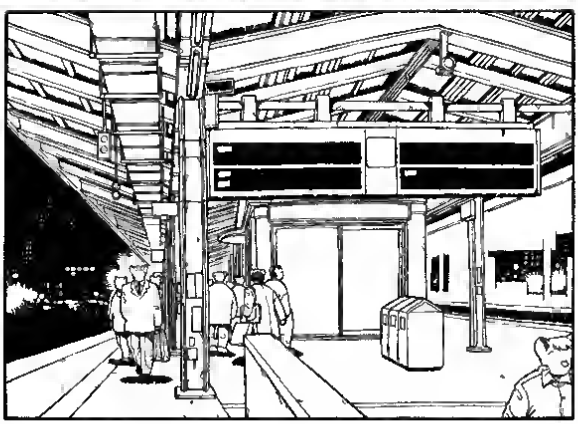


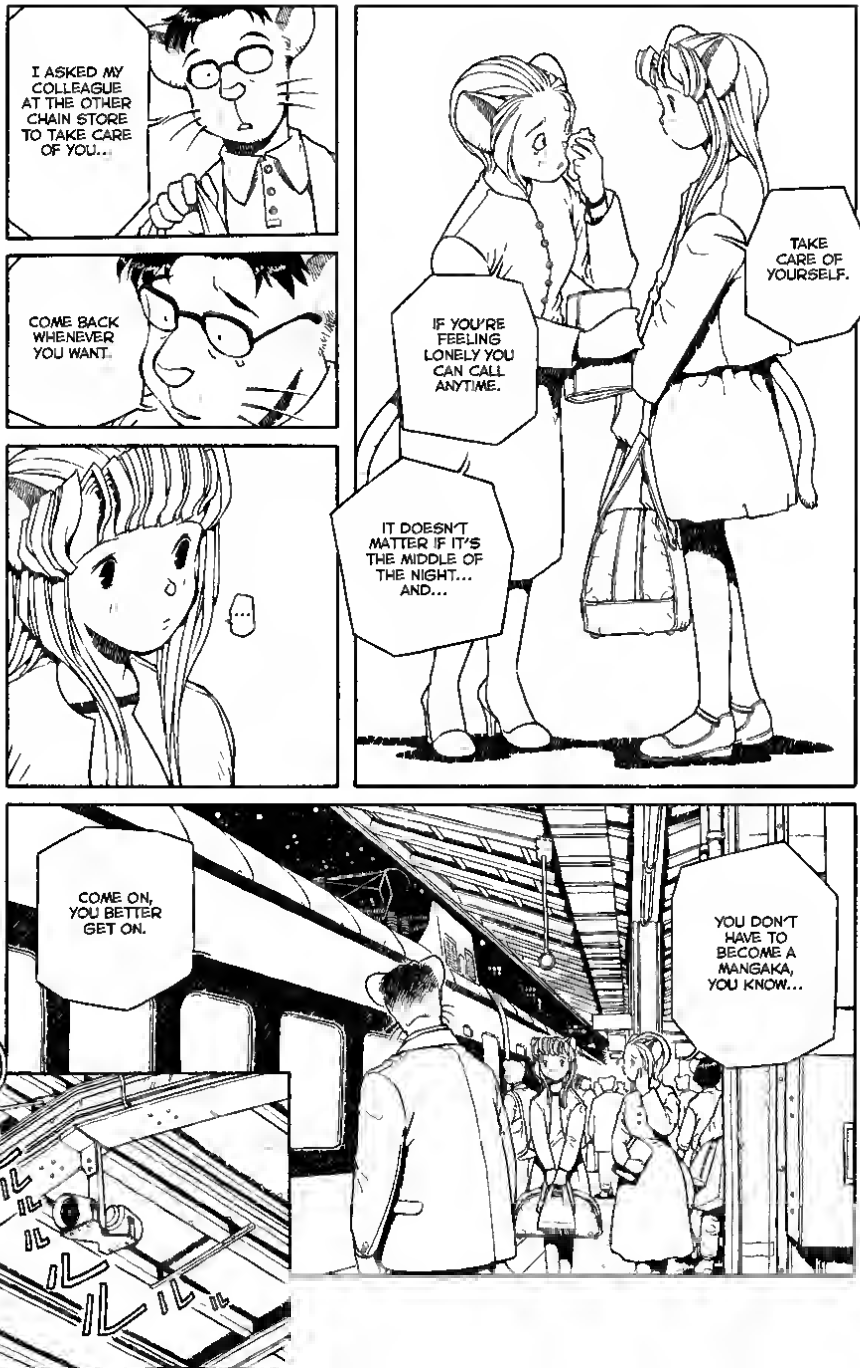
* ST. MARIANNE ACADEMY FOR GIRLS
CONGRATULATIONS ON GRADUATING.
TO ALL THE SENIORS...
聖マリアンヌ学院
May His counsels guide, uphold you.
God be with you till we meet again.
With His sheep securely fold you.
God be with you till we meet again.
at last, at last,
till we meet
till we meet
till we meet

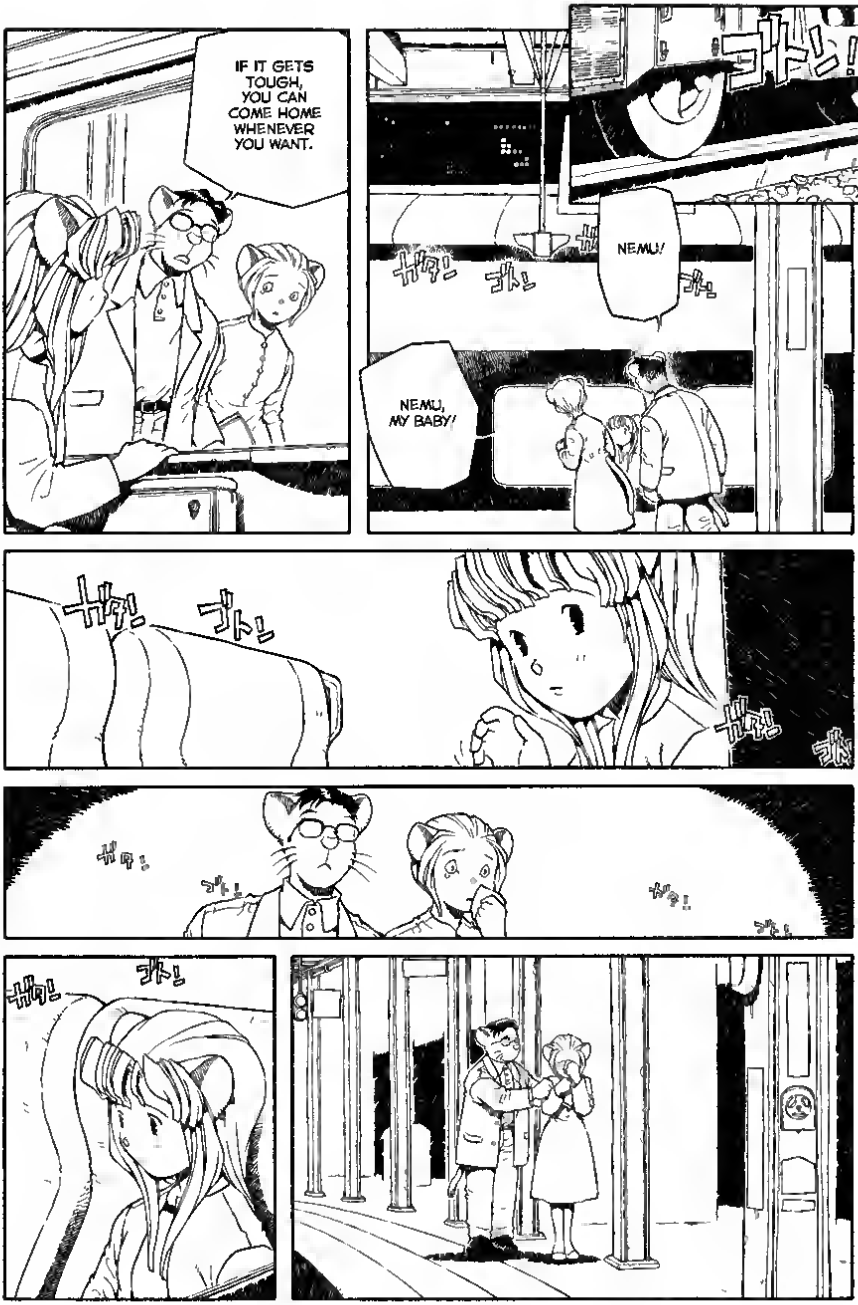
生ビール
お食事
ALL OF YOUR CLASSMATES ARE AUTOMATICALLY...
COME ON, HONEY, WE'VE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT THAT PLENTY, LET'S GIVE IT A REST.
...GOING ON TO SAINT MARIANNE COLLEGE, BUT NOT YOU...
...
Honey please...
Yes, yes, I know, I know.
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A MANGAKA OF ALL THINGS?
IT'S SUCH A SEEDY OCCUPATION...

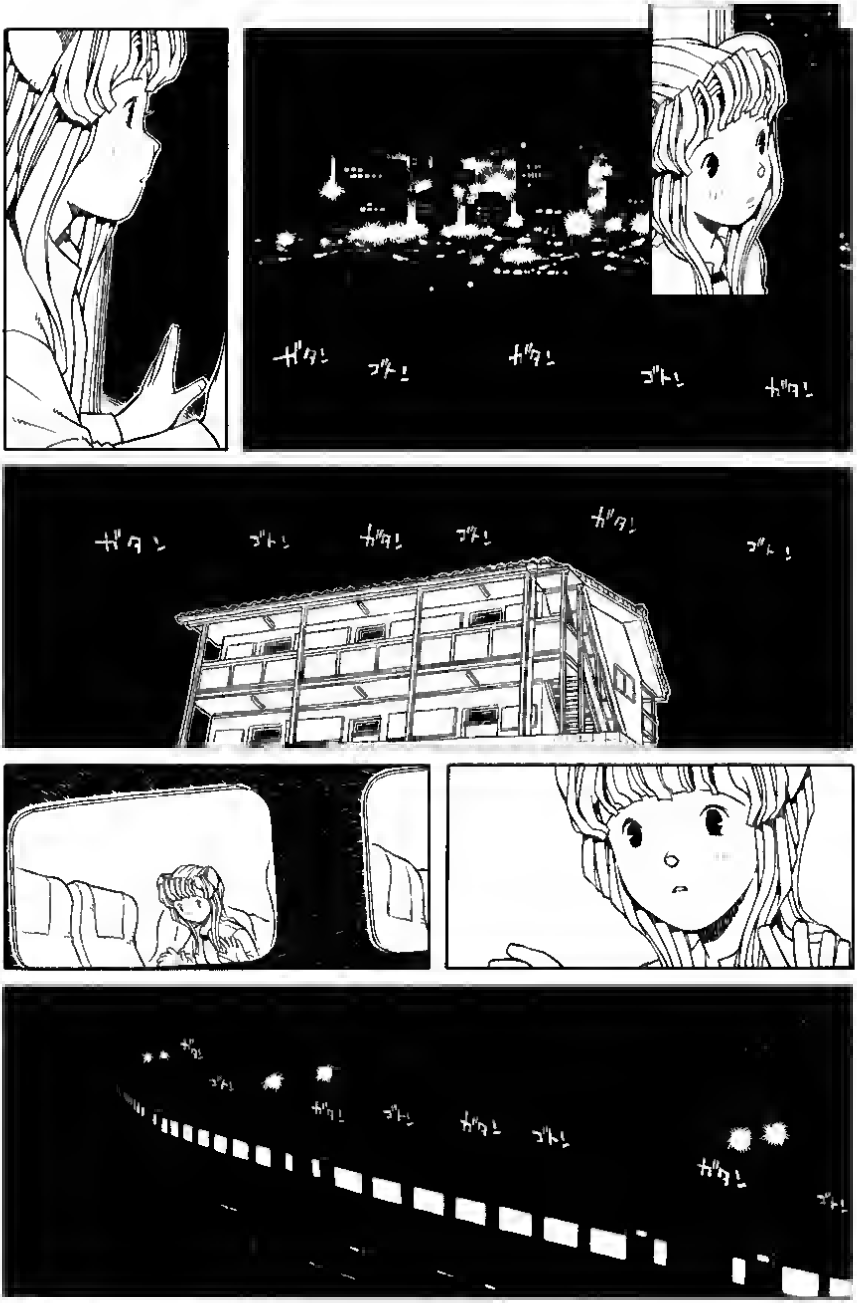


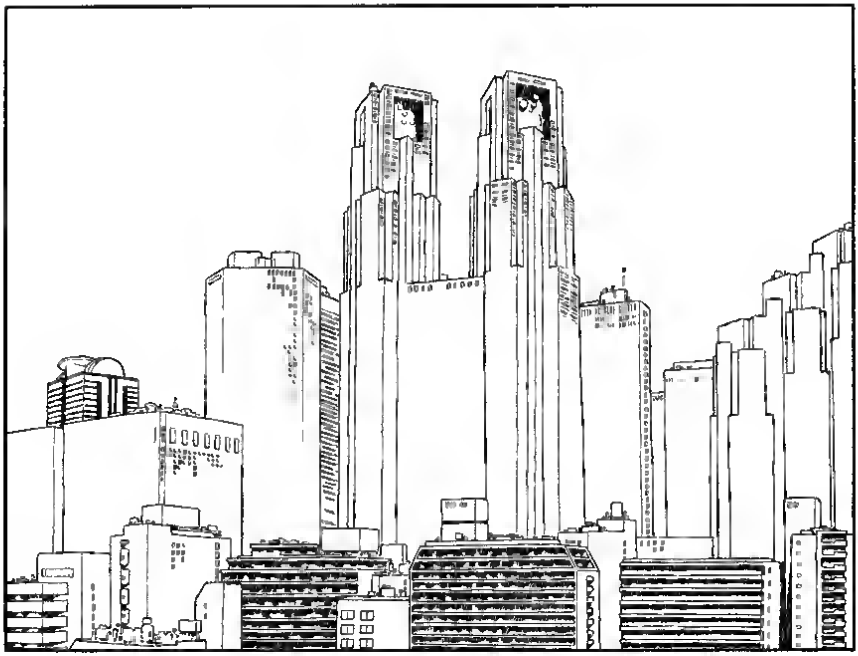

ONE MIXED LUNCH BOX, PLEASE



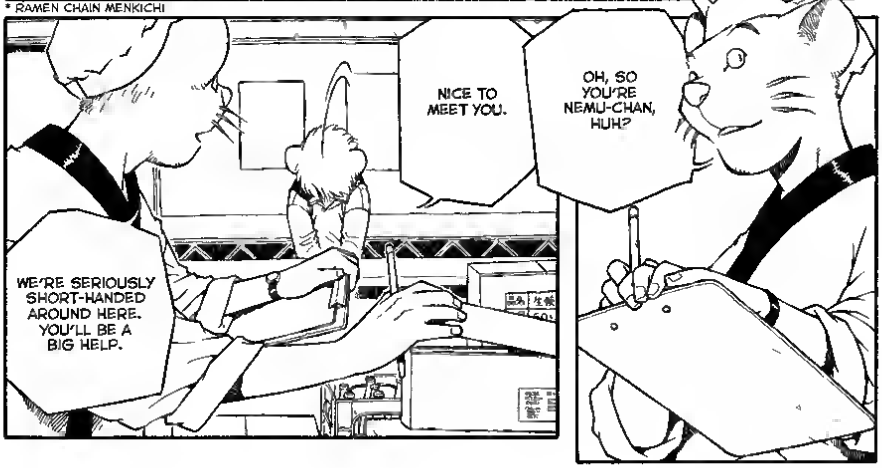

I ASKED MY COLLEAGUE AT THE OTHER CHAIN STORE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU...
COME BACK WHENEVER YOU WANT.
...
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
IF YOU'RE FEELING LONELY YOU CAN CALL ANYTIME.
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT... AND...
COME ON, YOU BETTER GET ON.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BECOME A MANGAKA, YOU KNOW...


IF IT GETS TOUGH, YOU CAN COME HOME WHENEVER YOU WANT.
ゴトン!
NEMU!
ガタン
ゴトン
NEMU, MY BABY!
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン


ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン
ガタン
ゴトン



* RAMEN CHAIN MENKICHI



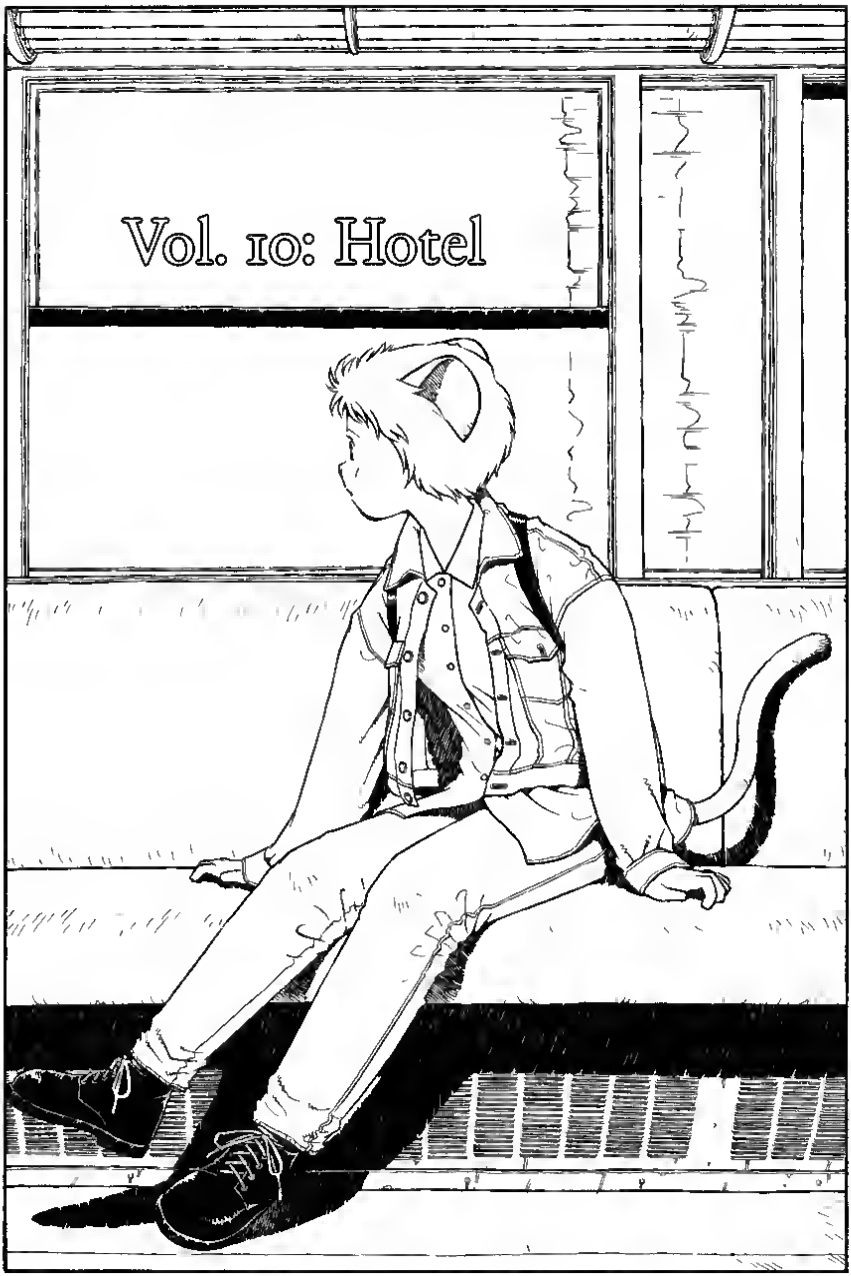
WELL, DO YOUR BEST.
SO YOU'RE AIMING TO BE A MANGAKA, HUH?

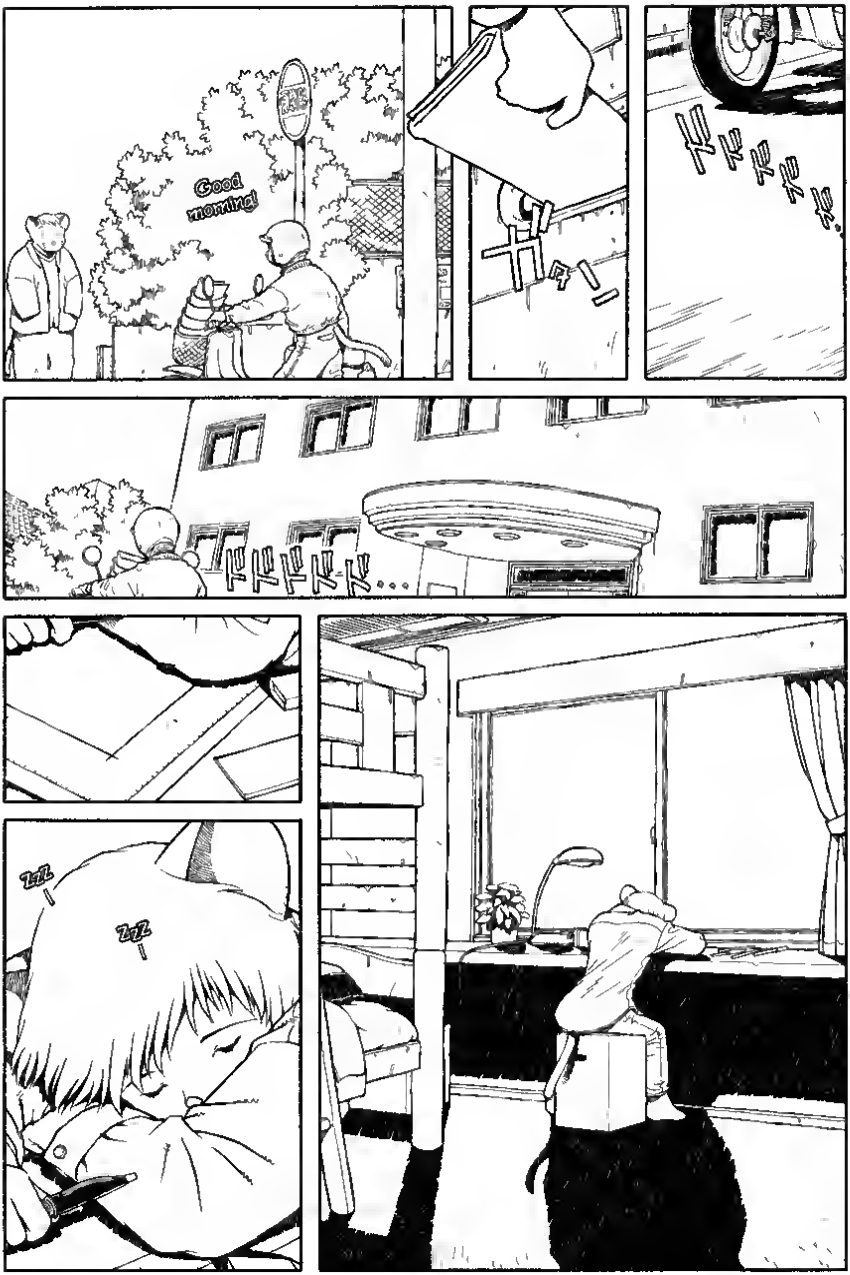
I WILL!

ガチャ
ガチャ
めん吉
Welcome!
Over here, please!
めん吉
めん吉
めん吉
HERE YOU ARE, ONE MISO RAMEN.
YES, SIR.
HEY, WATER PLEASE!

WELCOME!
HERE YOU GO!
Okay!

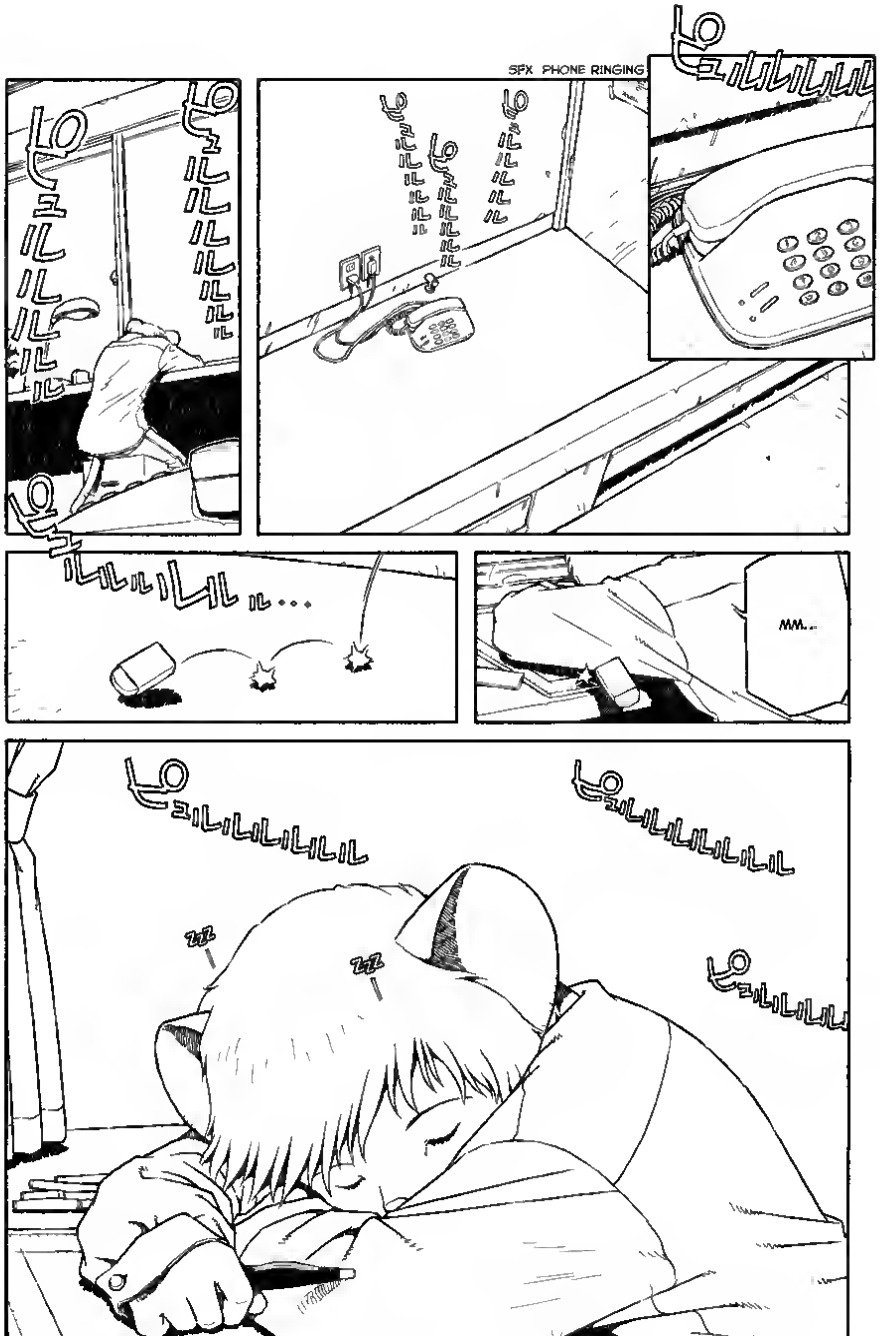
I'LL DEFINITELY MEET HIM AGAIN
ONE DAY I'LL MEET HIM AGAIN...

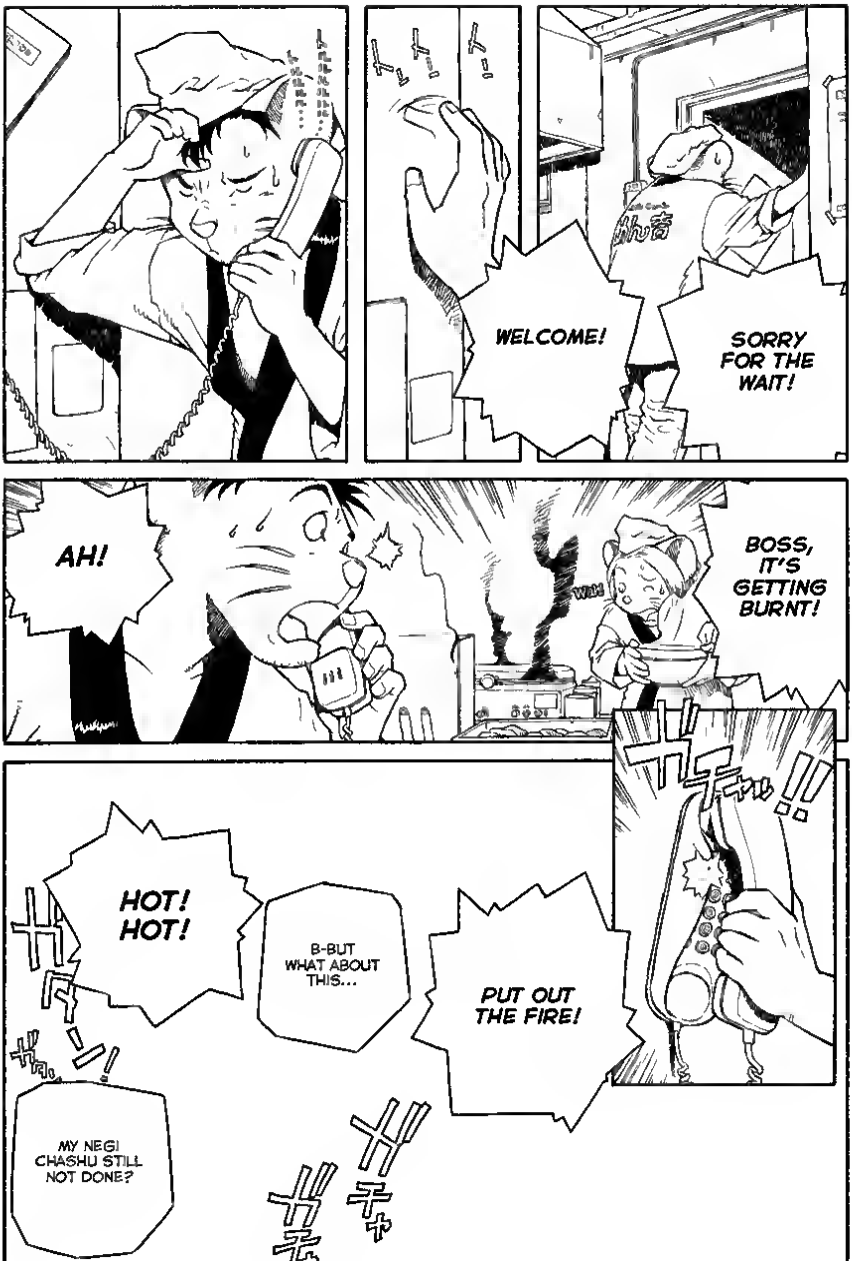

Vol. 10: Hotel


Good morning!
ガン
ドドドドド…
ZZZ
ZZZ

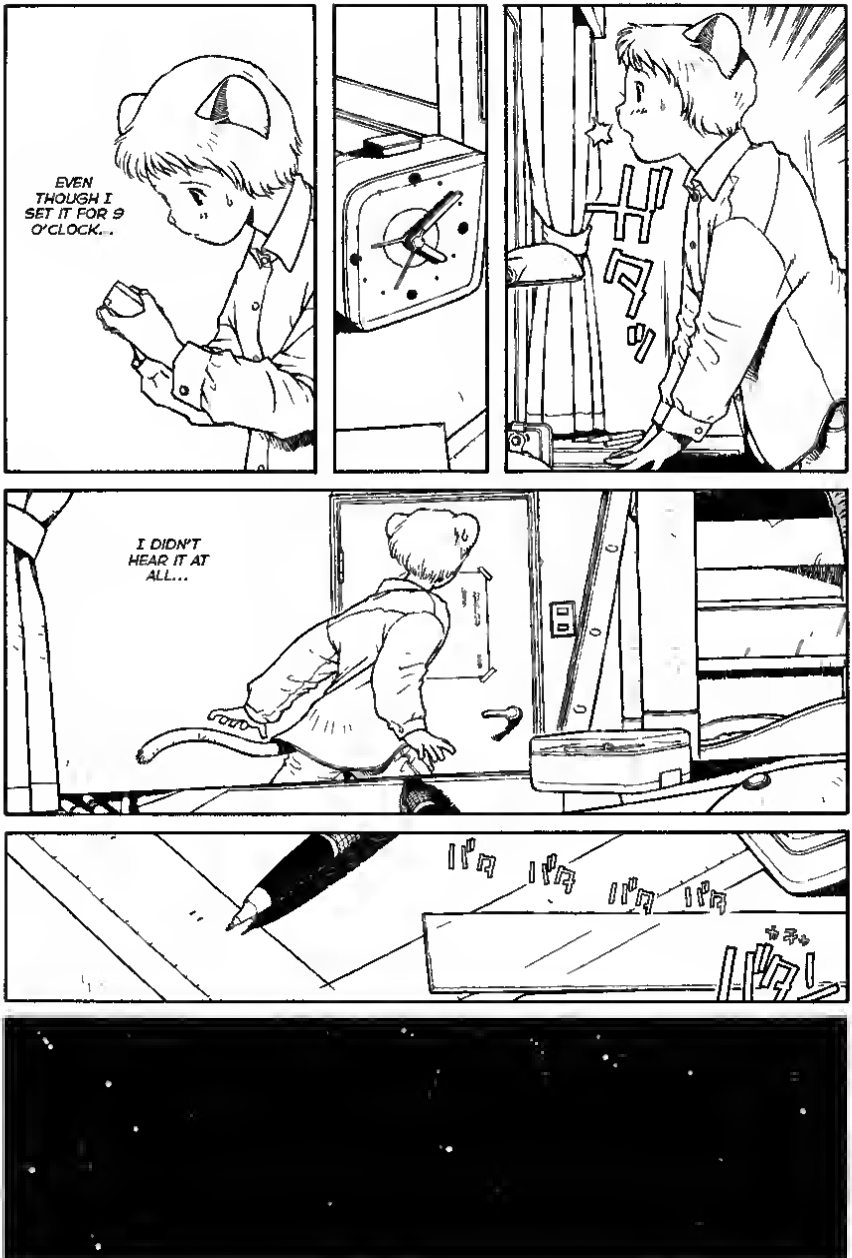
めん吉
カチャ
...
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE GIRL ON THE MORNING SHIFT?

OH, OVER HERE.
SORRYYYY!
EXCUSE ME, I DIDN'T ORDER GYOZA.
ガチャ
ガチャ
ガチャ
Sorry for the wait.
IS MY ORDER STILL NOT READY?
ONE LARGE RICE, GOT IT?
CHECK, PLEASE
THANK YOU! THAT'LL BE 900 YEN!
バシャッ
DAMN IT!
PASSED

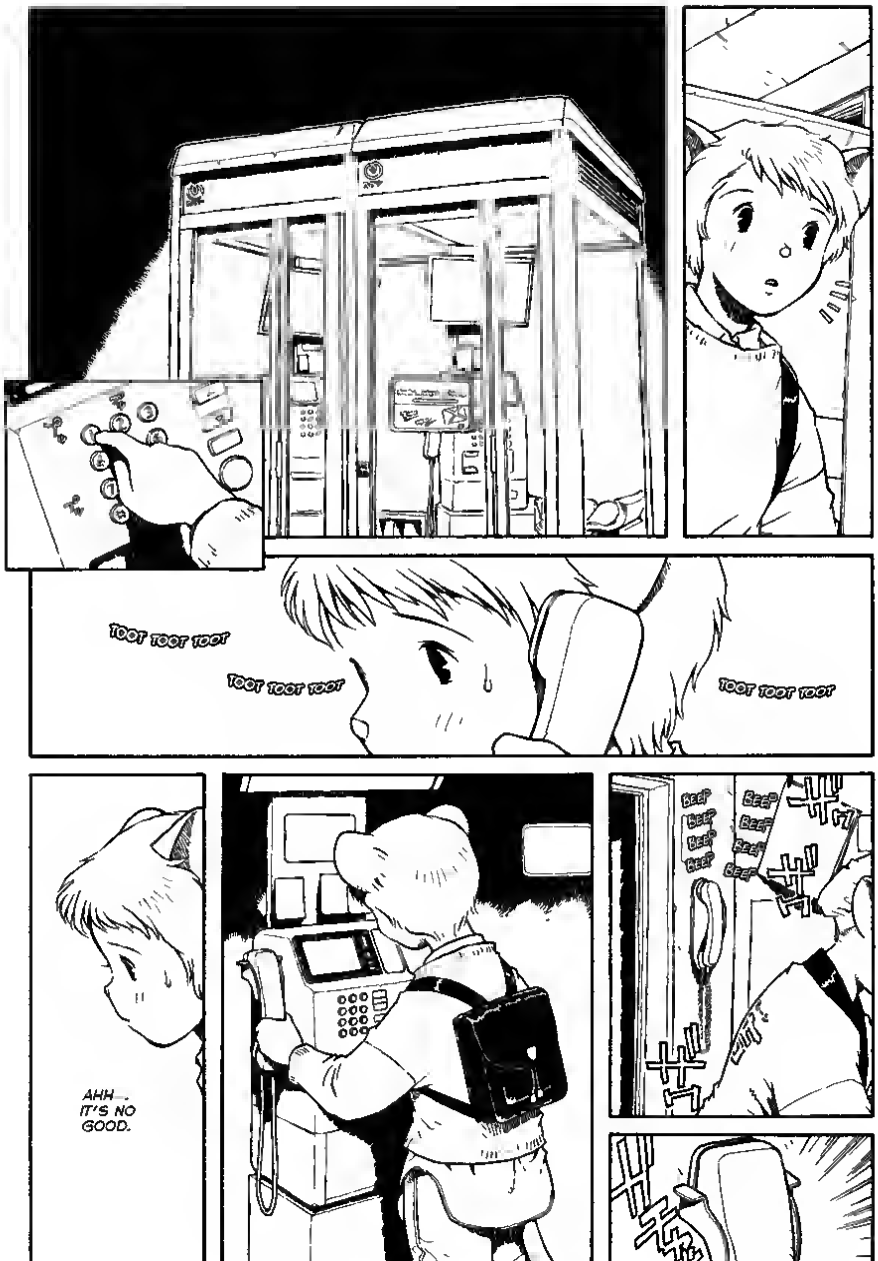

SFX PHONE RINGING
MM...


WELCOME!
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
AH!
BOSS, IT'S GETTING BURNT!
HOT! HOT!
B-BUT WHAT ABOUT THIS...
PUT OUT THE FIRE!
MY NEGI CHASHU STILL NOT DONE?

ドドドド
ドドドドドド…
WOOF
WOOF
…


EVEN THOUGH I SET IT FOR 9 O'CLOCK...
ガラッ
I DIDN'T HEAR IT AT ALL...
バタ バタ バタ バタ
ガチャ
バタン

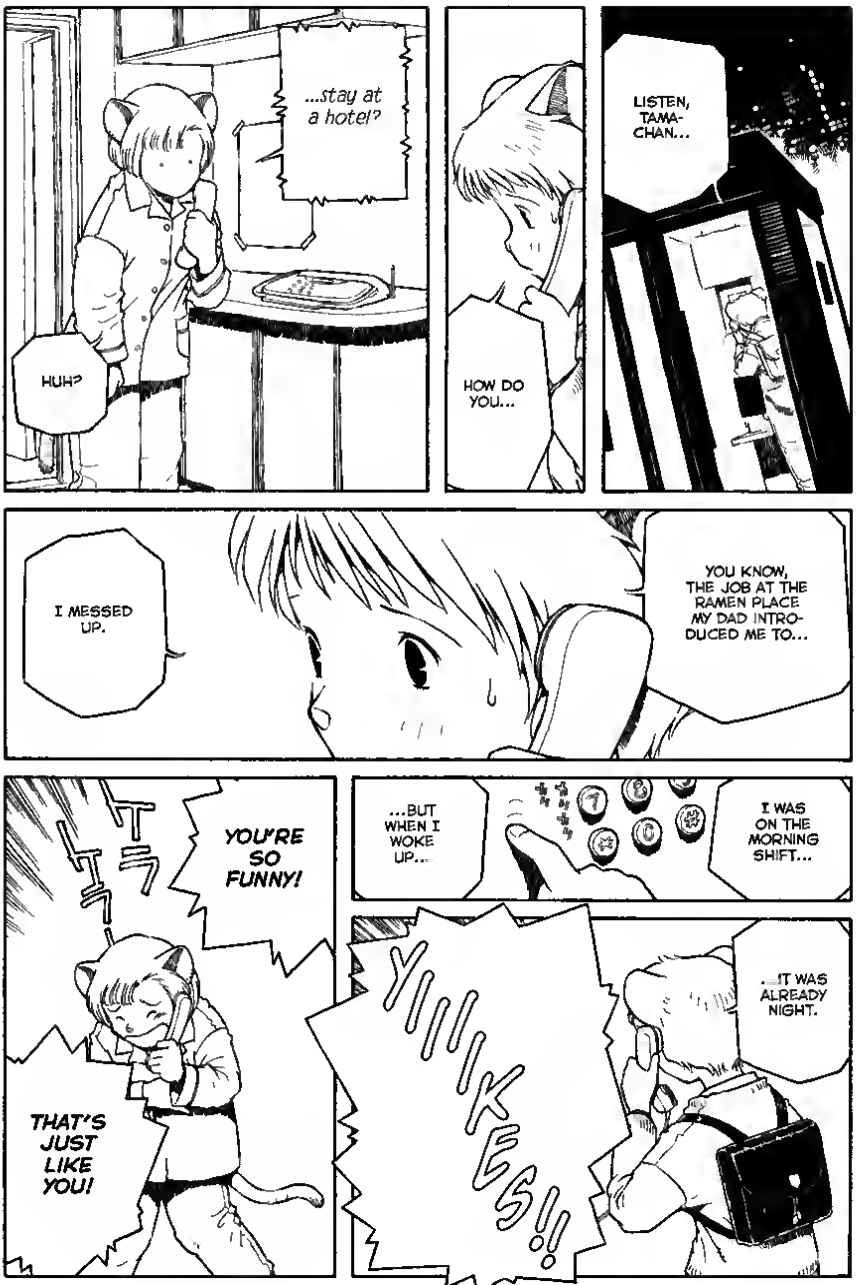
...
Thank you very much!

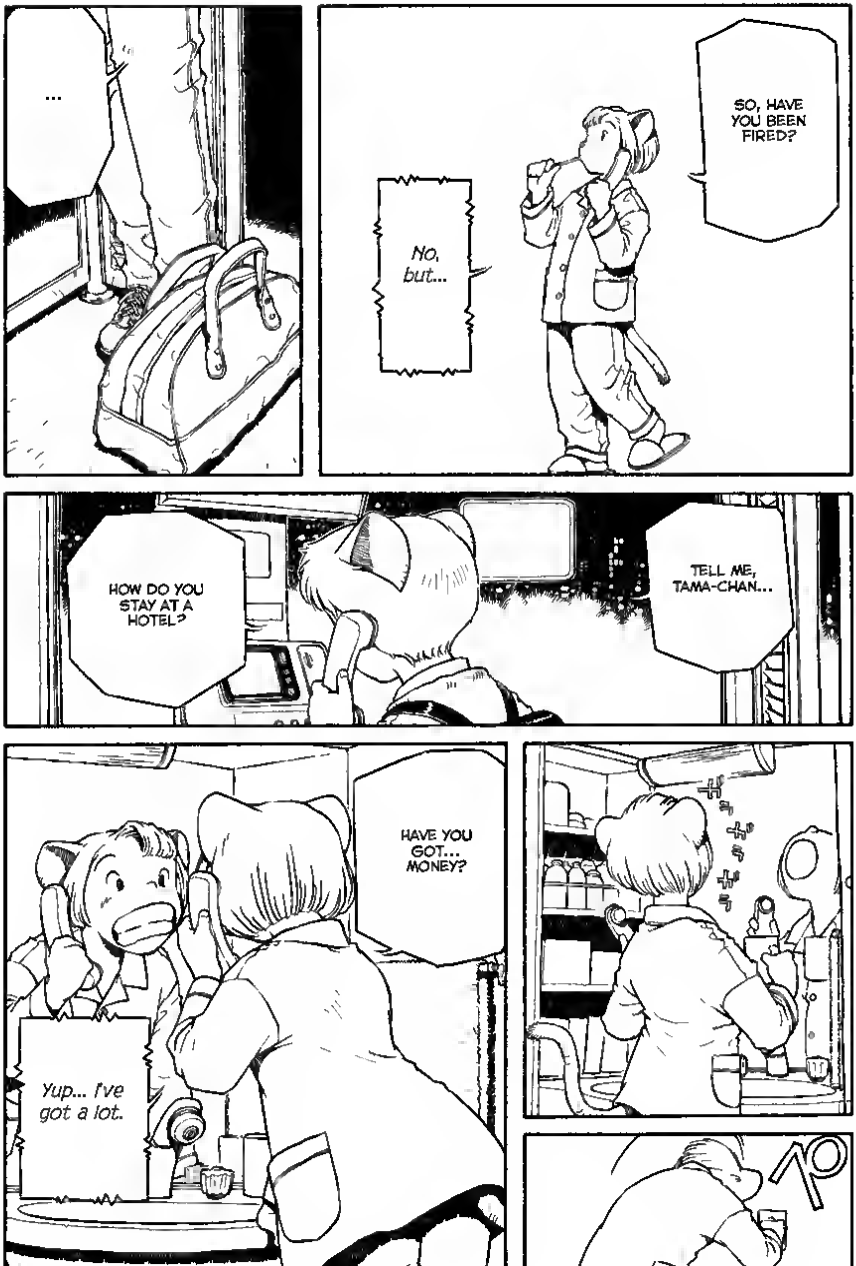

TOOT TOOT TOOT
TOOT TOOT TOOT
TOOT TOOT TOOT
AHH— IT'S NO GOOD.
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep
Beep

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT.
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING...?
...

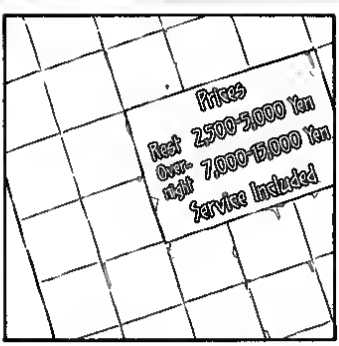
ボロン
I'm hungry hungry.
Ahh-ah
Whockah!
Ah-ah
Ah-ah
I'm hungry.
Ah-ahh
Hungryyy
Whockah!
Whockah!
Whockah!
THAT'S IT!
You don't have to be an O.
It's all right to be an X.

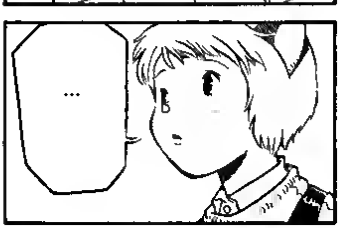
SFX: PHONE RINGING
AHUH?
YUP, HELLO?
NEMU!
HEY, HOLD ON A SECOND, YOU!
HAVE YOU APPROACHED THE PUBLISHING COMPANIES IN TOKYO YET?!


...stay at a hotel?
HUH?
HOW DO YOU...
LISTEN, TAMA-CHAN...
I MESSED UP.
YOU KNOW, THE JOB AT THE RAMEN PLACE MY DAD INTRO-DUCED ME TO...
YOU'RE SO FUNNY!
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU!
...BUT WHEN I WOKE UP...
I WAS ON THE MORNING SHIFT...
YIIIKES!!
...IT WAS ALREADY NIGHT.

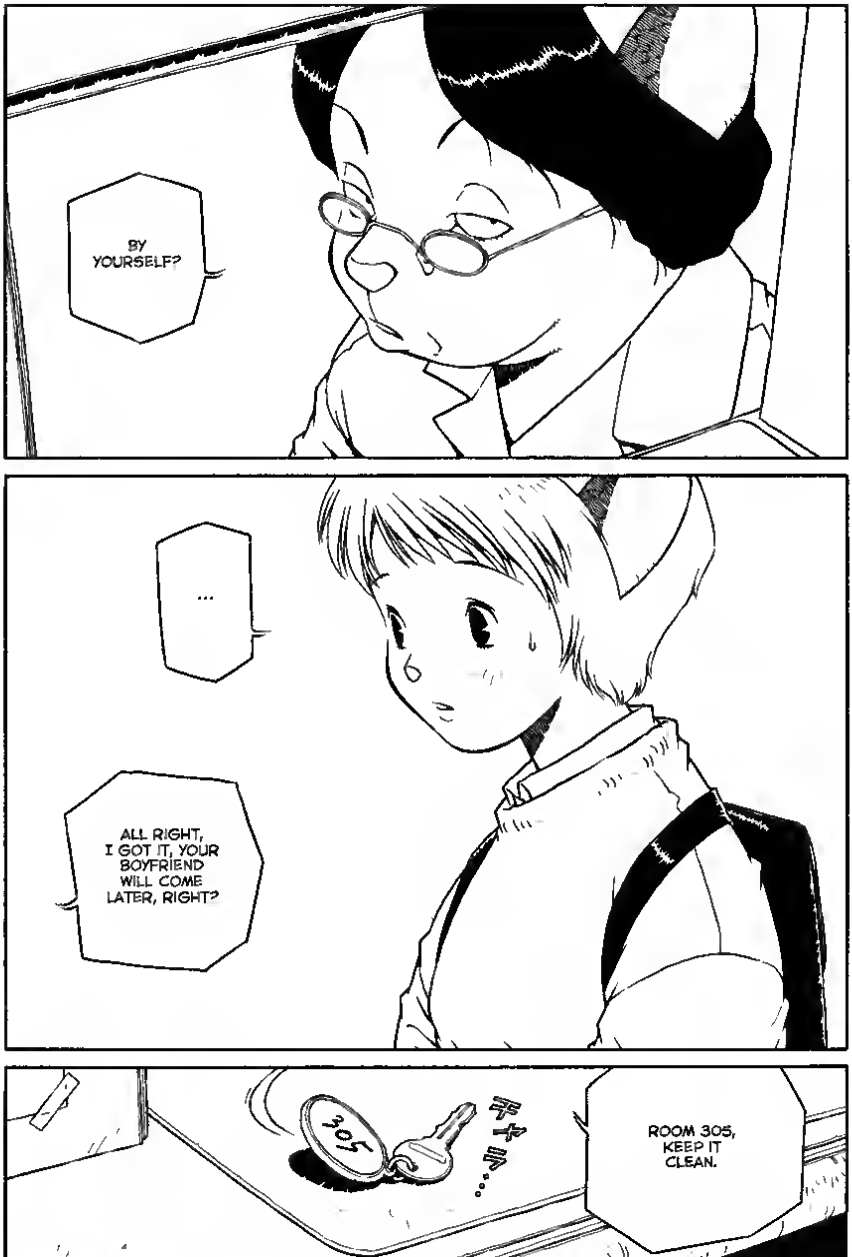

...
SO, HAVE YOU BEEN FIRED?
No, but...
HOW DO YOU STAY AT A HOTEL?
TELL ME, TAMA-CHAN...
HAVE YOU GOT... MONEY?
Yup... I've got a lot.

CHECKING IN... ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS WRITE YOUR NAME AND YOUR ADDRESS.
ANYONE CAN STAY AT A HOTEL.
"HARUKA FURUYA-SHIKI."
I'VE GOT MY OWN HOTEL NAME, YOU KNOW.
YOU CAN WRITE A FAKE NAME IF YOU WANT.
"Ririko Bizenya."
Should I make up a hotel name for you, too? Hm...
...
Yup
Yup
SOMETIMES I USE "STEPHANIE KOBAYAKAWA" TOO, BUT...
...IT'S GOT TO BE PERSUASIVE, RIGHT? HENCE FURUYASHIKI.

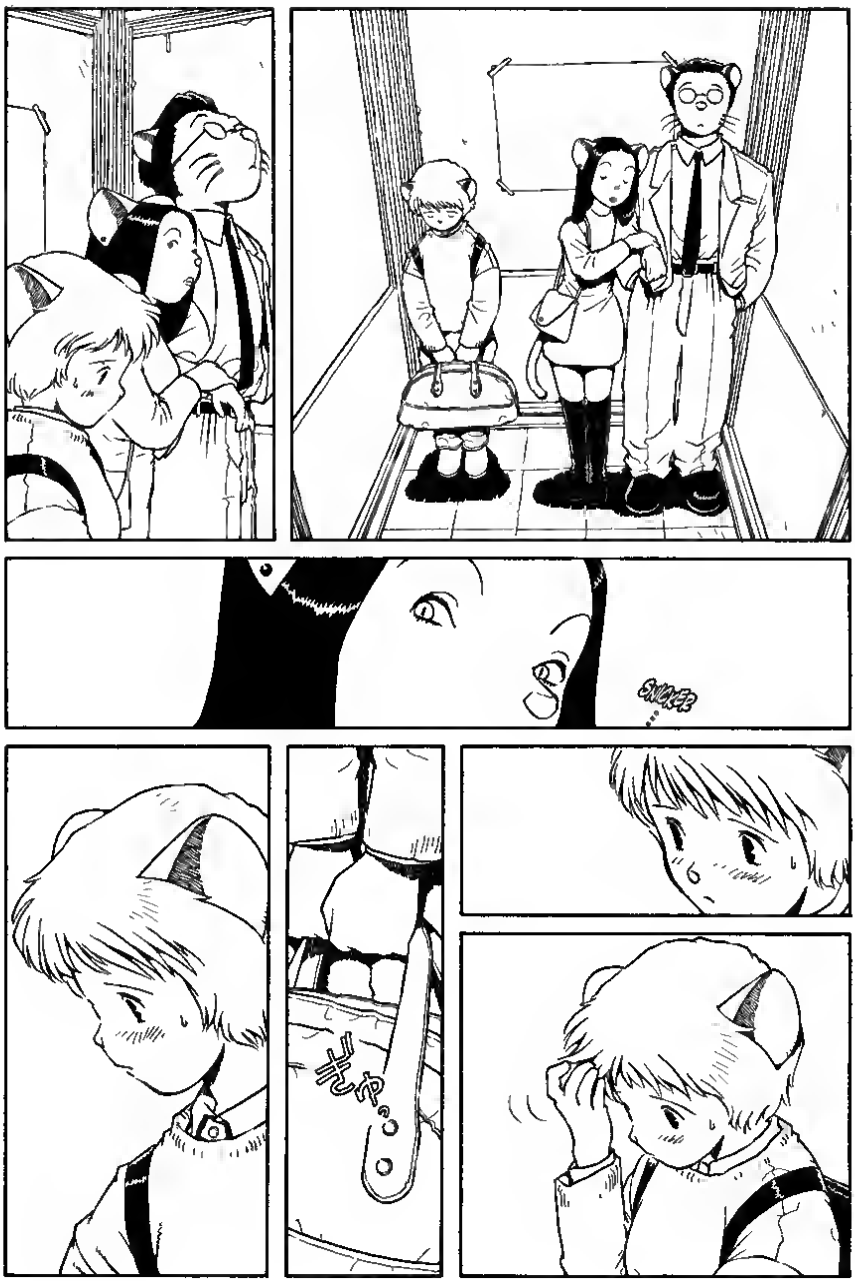

Prices
Rest 2,500-5,000 Yen
Over-night 7,000-15,000 Yen
Service Included

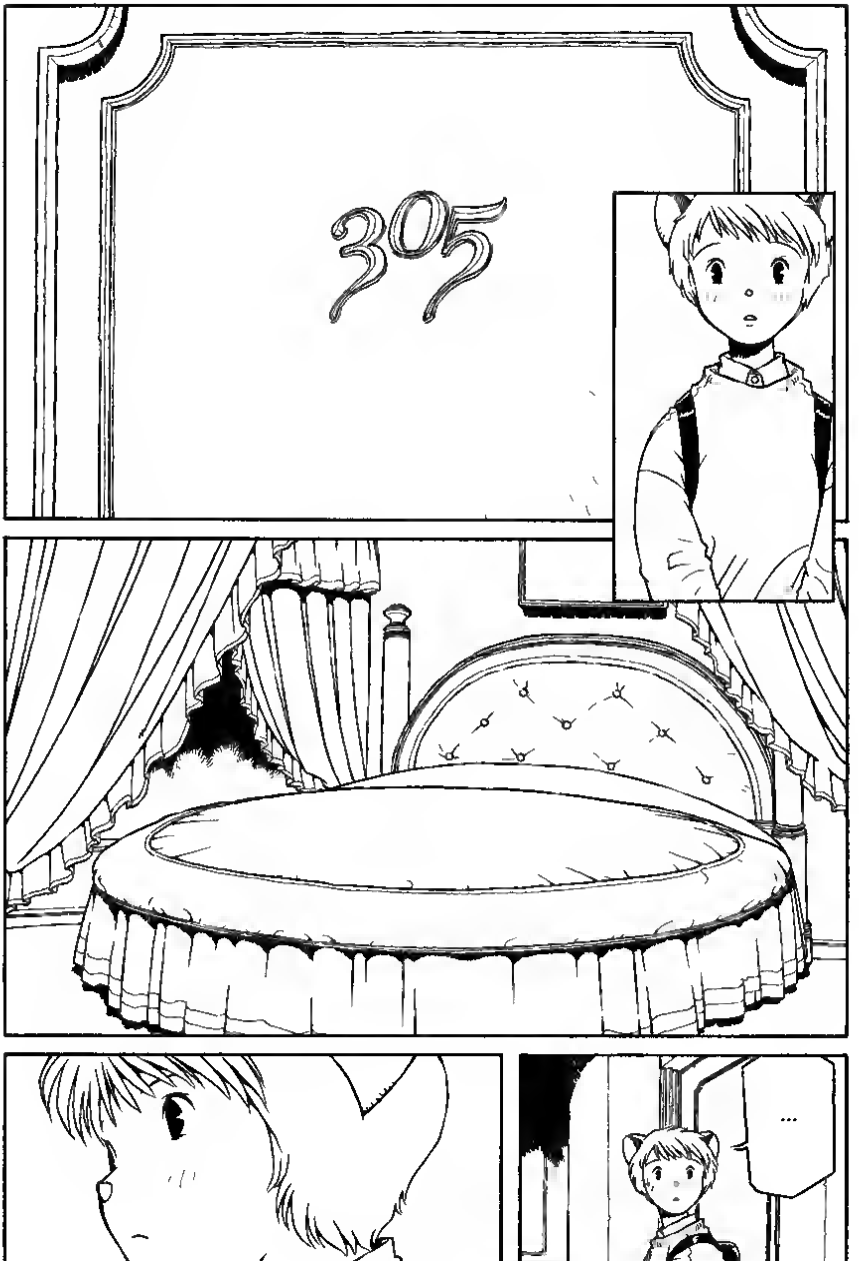

...

* HOTEL DEKIRUKANA (LIT. "CAN YOU DO IT?")

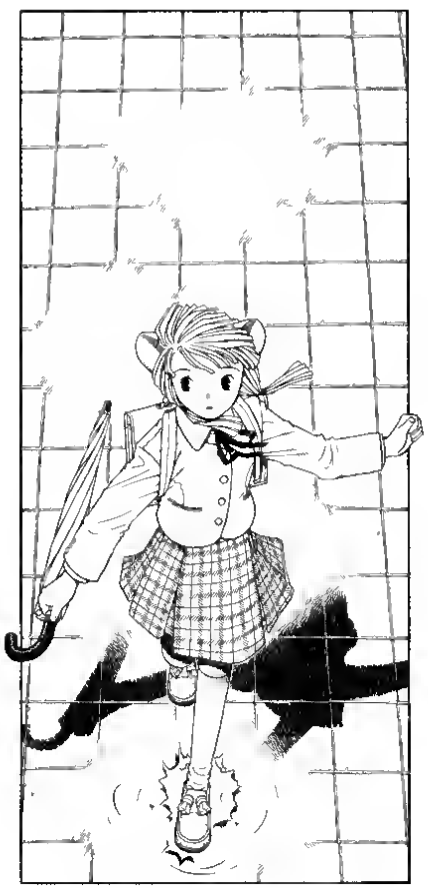

BY YOURSELF?
...
ALL RIGHT, I GOT IT, YOUR BOYFRIEND WILL COME LATER, RIGHT?
305
チャリ…
ROOM 305, KEEP IT CLEAN.

WHAT ABOUT MY NAME AND ADDRESS...?


SNICKER
ちゃ。。。

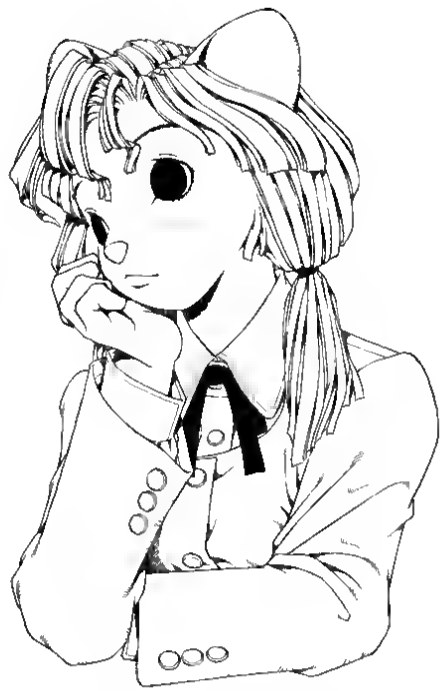

305
...

WHEN I FINISH THIS, I'LL GO TO THE PUBLISHERS AND...
I'LL BE ABLE TO ASK THEM ABOUT GORO-SAN'S CONTACT INFORMATION...



Character Design Gallery

● Splash used for the first volume.



● Splash created for the announcement of the new serial. This was also used for the cover of the original first volume.

● Drawings used for the same first volume.
In uniform, casual.

● Characters drawn as a test before serialization.

Commentary

Katsuhiko Okumura

On March 28th 2000, the author of *Shoujo Nemu* Mr Hirosuke Kizaki passed on It was heart failure, they said. He was 35 years old at the time of his death.

It's been more than ten years since I first met him, but I still remember it clearly I was working at Akita Shoten at the time, doing the preliminary screening for the newcomer award. It was during that screening that I had a revelatory experience From one moment to the next, my mind went completely blank, and all the hairs on my body stood up. His manuscript had that strong of an impact. Its images carried overwhelming power and the artwork was beautiful, giving off a feeling of ephemerality as if it were about to disappear. I just couldn't stand there and wait, and so the following day I set off toward Nagoya where Kizaki lived. Meeting the man himself was a bit of a shock. He was extremely reticent. He didn't speak at all. Just like his manuscript, Kizaki himself was someone who made you feel a sense of ephemerality. After that we worked together on his rough sketches and developed a few short stories. I had transferred to ASCII, but we still continued our association.

And that's how *Shoujo Nemu* came about. To be honest, even though I've been in charge of all sorts of different manga artists, Kizaki was without a doubt the most difficult to deal with. I have never met another artist who was as hard to communicate with. Despite that, while advancing like I was fumbling through a minefield, somehow we kept it up, and I even felt like I was getting some response. Just then, he unexpectedly declared "I can't draw anymore."

No matter how well a series is coming along, at a certain point the artist starts to feel stressed and frustrated. When those feelings reach a certain limit, the artist thinks, "I don't want to do this anymore," which in many cases spells the series' ending. In Kizaki's case, that limit came precisely around the point of when he got past the first collected paperback. You could say that it was ridiculously earlier than the average manga artist. It didn't matter whether the manga was an original product, an adaptation or part of a media franchise, there always came a point where Kizaki simply stopped drawing. And so he found himself in the exceptional situation where his three series all ended after just one volume. I think he had incredible talent when it came to creating manga, but lacked the power to finish what he started. Perhaps, if he were able to bring those three series to a clean conclusion, his popularity would have risen enormously.

However, at the same time I also think that perhaps this sense of ephemerality and fragility was able to shine through exactly because it was someone like him who was drawing it. After I learned of his death, a lot of things were running through my head, but it was with those words that I tried persuading myself.

When I first read his manuscript, it was signed with a pen name, "Usubakagero" (mayfly). It's an insect that dies the day after it sheds its skin, becoming an adult. Back then I thought the name was too fleeting so I had him change it, but thinking about it now... Well, I guess it doesn't matter what I say now, at the very least I pray that he has achieved happiness in the next world.